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Pennsylvania Alpine Club Wild Life Bulletin X

THE WILD ANIMALS

of

CLINTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

Compiled By

HENRY W. SHOEMAKER

Henry W. Shoemaker,

from Conversations and Notes of

John H. Chatham, John Q. Dyce, Thomas G. Simcox, A. K. Pierce, Seth Iredell Nelson, Seth Nelson, Jr., and other Clinton County Naturalists and Hunters

With an Introduction by

MRS. CELESTE S. HENDERSON

formerly of Renovo, Pa.

Illustrated by

25 Portraits of Leading Hunters and Trappers of the County

Altoona, Pennsylvania

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THE HUNTSMAN'S CAMP

(By Rev. C. H. Dudley)

Pale and vanishing moonlight,
Retreating shadows of naked autumn trees,
Morning breaking on the mountain-tops,
A faint light below the horizon.
A stir in the hunters' camp,
A thrill of life electrifies sleeping forms,
Quick crawling forth from piled blankets,
Coffee, rolls, smoking bacon,
Boundless animation, excited talk, burnished guns,
Off to the woods—and the kill.
Primeval man—primeval instincts—a primeval world,
A wooded solitude;
The hot and crowding emotions
Of man going forth to slay,
The hunting cry of the wolf-pack
In his heart and burning through his veins,
Rare sport this day.
Slowly the sun climbs above a far range,
Darkness dissolves and fades away,
A light snow like a bridal veil
Makes a paradise of whiteness
Over all God's world:
The hunt is on.

To SAMUEL N. RHOADS,
Author of "The Mammals of Pennsylvania and New Jersey", the foundation work for any treatise dealing with the wild life of the Keystone State, these pages are dedicated with the compiler's respectful regard for a great savant.

244495

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INTRODUCTORY PREFACE.

John H. Chatham knew the wild animals of Clinton County because he lived with them. From Matins to Vespers their lives were open books for him, and his great soul was so attuned to that harmony that he wrote, " 'Tis Heaven here, 'tis Heaven there, where'er I look, or tread, or stray."

Col. Henry W. Shoemaker has verified many of Mr. Chatham's observations of animal life by comparisons with the books written by Samuel N. Rhoads and Dr. B. H. Warren on much the same subject, treating the State as a whole.

Clinton county has to her credit another able naturalist, the late A. K. Pierce, of Renovo, whose collection of animals, birds, butterflies and moths should to-day be sheltered in the State Museum at Harrisburg. With untiring patience and persistence Mr. Pierce hunted for years for the Humming-bird's nest, as well as the nest of the Water Thrush, besides studying the life's histories of the wolves, wild cats, foxes, and other wild animals of Clinton County.

John H. Chatham, A. K. Pierce, Dr. B. H. Warren—all three—have written of the animals of Pennsylvania. What is Pennsylvania doing to perpetuate their works or encourage younger men to like endeavors?

CELESTE S. HENDERSON.

JOHN H. CHATHAM

(1846—1923)

I.

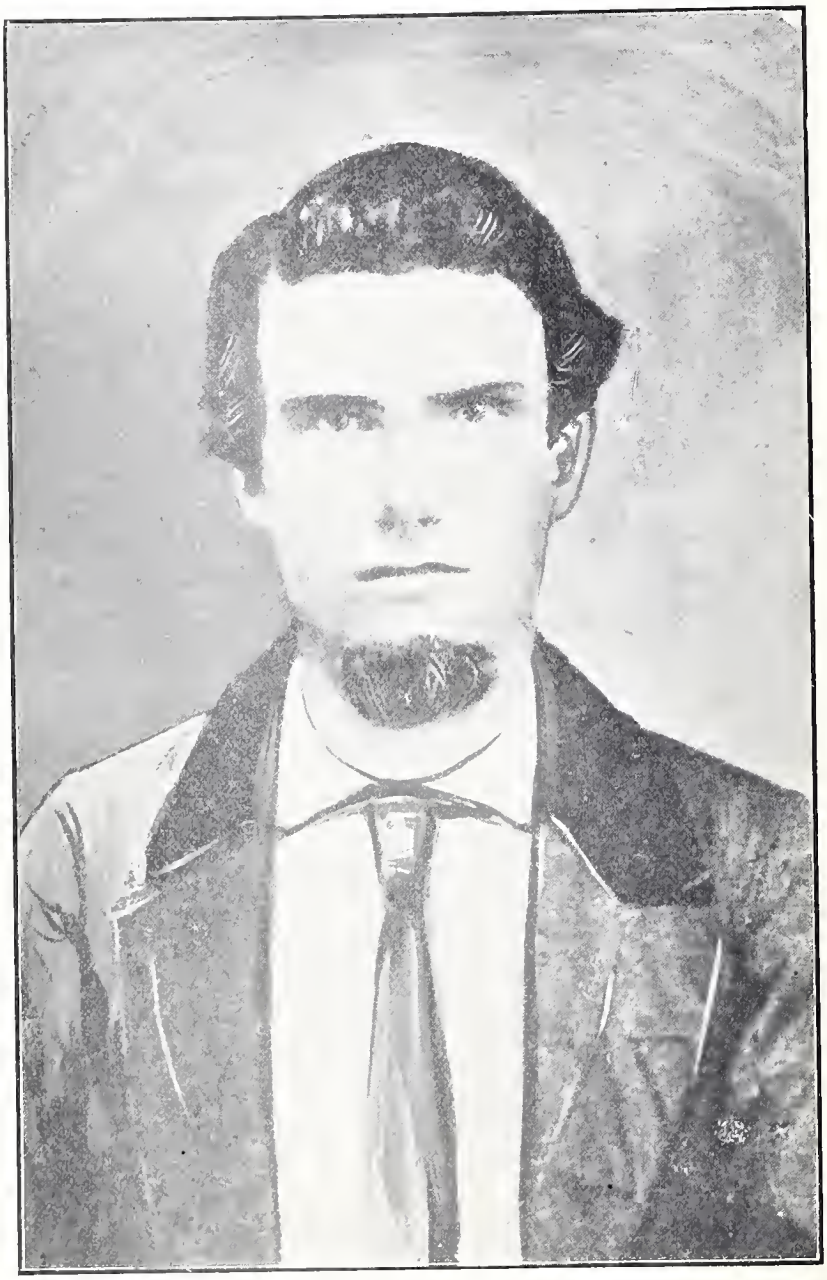
THE WILD ANIMALS OF CLINTON COUNTY.

Clinton County, situated in almost the geographical centre of Pennsylvania, is bounded on the north by the Jersey Shore - Coudersport Turnpike, which marks the southern limits of the old Black Forest. Kettle Creek rising in the same Black Forest region almost marks the northwestern boundary. The southern boundaries extend to the second ridge of Nittany Mountain with only Brush Mountain between it and the Seven Mountains; the historic Tiadaghton or Pine Creek forms the boundary for a short distance to the southeast; Beech Creek, and the Clearfield Branch of the Susquehanna River are partial boundaries on the southwest. In this way the county touches or is adjacent to the wildest and most picturesque regions which still remain in the Commonwealth. The County was erected by an Act of Assembly in 1839, and comprises 878 square miles. Within its present borders have been enacted many of the most stirring events of Pennsylvania history, including the signing of the famous Pine Creek Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776, under the wide-spreading elm on the west bank of the Tiadaghton by the Fair Play men, whose "State House" was in the Col. John Chatham mill, near the mouth of Chatham's Run. Its residents have been a race of pioneers, Indian fighters, soldiers, woodsmen, and hunters. Always a forested county and sparsely settled

its population in 1920 was 33,555 persons. At that time 16 out of the 29 districts in the county showed a decrease in population between 1910 and 1920. Its cleared areas will always be less than the wooded on account of its mountain topography. The total acreage is 560,000, of which 453,000 acres are in forest. Situated so centrally in the State, it has formed a meeting ground of the Canadian and Transition life zones, and being well watered, has harbored many of the rarer forms of wild animal and bird life. Its rarer fauna and avi-fauna have been studied by many naturalists of distinction, but the chief compendium of its wild animal life have been recorded by Samuel N. Rhoads, in his "Mammals of Pennsylvania and New Jersey", Philadelphia, 1903, and Dr. B. H. Warren, in his "Diseases and Enemies of Poultry", Harrisburg, 1897. Until the present compilation, no book treating the wild animals of Clinton County solely has yet appeared. The principal excuse for the appearance of the present volume is to permanently preserve some of the manuscript natural history notes of and conversations with the late John H. Chatham, of "The Cedars", McElhattan, Clinton County, who shortly before his death in 1923 placed his papers in the compiler's hands with the modest statement, "I hope that you may be able to have some of them printed some day". Mr. Chatham was a close, and life-long observer of nature, and his records and conversations seem worthy of preservation. Previously the compiler had frequently discussed the wild animals of Clinton County with the late John Q. Dyce, also of McElhattan, and had made many trips to study the animals and birds with the late Thomas G. Simcox, of the same place, an ardent outdoor man and naturalist. The compiler has also

discussed the animals of Clinton County with Charles H. Eldon, of Williamsport, well known for his Clinton County nature researches, the late A. K. Pierce of Renovo, who possessed a fine collection of Clinton County animals mounted by himself, C. E. Logue, of Woolrich, A. D. Karstetter, of Loganton, Seth I. Nelson, and his son Seth Nelson, Jr., of Round Island, the greatest of Clinton County hunters; J. W. Zimmerman, of the Zimmerman Hospice, Dr. B. H. Warren, of West Chester, and many others. As a pioneer volume, to set the landmarks straight and light the way, this record of the animal life of Clinton County is submitted to the public. It lacks completeness and thoroughness, but opens the way to further and more scientific works on the subject. Lacking in those technical details it may readily introduce the newcomers to our native fauna and our animal friends near at home, like the 'coon, the 'possum, the groundhog and the hare, and it may be a help to nature study in Clinton County schools. The compiler thanks the many sources who have assisted in its preparation. May our wild neighbors of woods and fields find new friends and stalwart protectors through its distribution; it is all bunk to say that Nature's Balance has been upset, and that certain species of animals must be destroyed. Nature is always establishing new balances, else the equilibrium of existence would be all awry. To maintain the best and sanest balance none of the species of wild animals that remain in Clinton County should be exterminated. All go to make the world better, and the woods brighter through their presence. Thanks are due to Mr. W. Benignus for his aid in reading the proofs.

"Restless Oaks", HENRY W. SHOEMAKER.
McElhattan, Pa.,
August 12, 1926.



JOHN Q. DYCE

(1830—1904)

II.

NORTHEASTERN OR VIRGINIA OPOSSUM, " 'POSSUM".

Didelphis virginiana (Kerr.)

Clinton Co.—Specimen in Pierce's collection taken near Renovo. I saw tracks of one, Nov. 1898, along the Sinnemahoning at Round Island.—Rhoads. Catch one in 5 or 6 years in bottom land; also caught one in bear trap on top of mountain (1800 ft.) near Round Island.—Nelson, 1896.

Were scarce in Clinton County fifty years ago, but are coming in from the South, more every year. They began to be noticed in Wayne Township about time of flood (1889) and may have come in to eat carrion. Several are killed in chicken coops every year in McElhattan.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

Walter Dyce, a boy trapper of McElhattan, caught 10 to 20 'possums during winters of 1923-1924 and 1925, and sold the skins to good advantage, in addition to supplying his neighbors' tables with this delicacy. They seem to be great breeders, having a dozen or more young at a time, and like cats breed two or three times a year. Our local people are only beginning to appreciate them on the table, consequently fewer are thrown away after being skinned than formerly.—W. J. Phillips, 1925.

Small Type of Pennsylvania Deer

III.

VIRGINIA DEER.

Odocolieus americanus (Erxleben). "Little Deer", "Mike Courtney's Sheep".

The common, native deer of Clinton County. Smaller and with smaller horns. The compiler of this book has specimens of both varieties of horns, taken about same time, 1885, hanging side by side. A few remain in the mountains between Sugar Valley and the West Branch which moved in there after the big deer had been exterminated, but they are giving way to the Western and mixed types of deer introduced at various times by State Game Commission. If deer from outside localities were to be brought in they should have been Adirondack or New England deer exclusively. At present with Michigan, Kansas, Texas, Kentucky and Florida deer mixing with Adirondack, and New Hampshire specimens, and occasionally crossing with the little native deer a ludicrous looking mongrel is produced, that will take centuries of natural selection to "breed out" even if not further subjected to similar mixtures!

The little deer are the deer of the southern counties and Maryland, and of the open plains. They liked the country where there were groves of pitch pines, and ferns and bracken. They shunned the deep, gloomy hemlock wildernesses of Central and Northern Pennsylvania, but moved

in after the timber was cut, and the big deer had been killed off. They were not here when I was a boy. I was born in 1857, and we called them Mike Courtney's sheep when they first appeared about the time that this big woodsman had finished cutting the white pine on White Deer Creek for Ario Pardee. That was about 1880.—C. F. Herlacher, 1915.

I don't believe that the little deer ever got much beyond the West Branch to the north in Clinton County. The big deer made their last stand in the Allegheny foothills, and there were few deer left when they were gone until the western and southern deer introduced the past few years by State Game officials.—T. G. Simcox, 1912.

The little type of deer are mostly to the south of us in Clinton County. The big deer stayed until the last were killed, and now our hunters kill Michigan deer, and think they are of the old Pennsylvania "large type".—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1920.

Charles H. Eldon with the record deer head from Clinton Co.

IV.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA DEER.

Odocoileus americanus borealis (Miller). "Big Deer"; "Stag"; "Harsh".

The late A. K. Pierce, naturalist of Renovo, possessed a superb collection of a score of heads of "big deer" killed in Clinton County. These had been left for him to mount, but were never called for, and although thus formed at random constitute the most representative collection of this vanished type in the State. They should be in some museum. The largest set has a spread of 27 inches.

Clinton Co.—"Increasing here. I have heard of 20 being killed this fall (1900) in this Co."—Pfouts.

Gradually decreasing in numbers, but by their tracks in the mountains north of Round Island would estimate that 10 or 15 range over three square miles in that vicinity. An adult buck and doe and two yearlings are seen separately in various tramps covering a period of one week in the range in the fall of 1898.—Rhoads.

"I killed 23 deer in the fall season of 1873 (in the vicinity of Round Island").—Nelson, quoted by Rhoads.

The big deer of old days are all gone. I killed the last one hereabouts from my window in fall of 1895. I have the head mounted in my room, and would not part with it.—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1920.

The last herd of old-fashioned big deer were crusted and killed by some of our home boys, near head of McElhattan Run, in winter of 1869-1870. A few scattering ones were run to the river by dogs after that, but they were entirely gone in Wayne Township by 1885.—J. Q. Dyce, 1903.

The old-time stags were noted for their fine racks of horns, which they carried proudly aloft. They usually were white under the throat and under side of the neck. I have seen a big deer chasing a runty southern deer, and it made me laugh. The big deer would even run a young elk, the old men up river told me years ago.—T. G.Simcox, 1910.

My father, late David A. Zimmerman, killed 600 deer in his career as a hunter in the mountains of eastern Clinton, Union and Lycoming Counties, often 20 in a season. Practically every deer he killed was of the large, or northern variety, and the little deer with their tiny "racks" did not come in here until the giant deer of an earlier day were gone. The big deer liked the darkness and cover of the original forests, whereas the little breed preferred the semi-open country where the larger timber had been cut away.—J. W. Zimmerman, 1915.

Philip Shreckengast, of Tylersville, killed 400 deer in Clinton County in his long career as a hunter.—Maynard's History of Clinton County, Lock Haven, 1874.

According to Seth Nelson's hunting diary, this great Clinton County Nimrod killed 533 deer between 1831 and 1874, when the diary closes. But the old hunter kept on killing deer until within a year or two of his death, in 1905.

Clinton County Deer Head, killed by Jasper Bower

V.

THE WHITE-FOOTED DEER.

"During the stay of Long's Expedition at Engineer Cantonment, three specimens of a variety of the common deer were brought in, having all the feet white near the hoofs, and extending to those on the hind-feet from a little above the spurious hoofs. This white extremity was divided, upon the sides of the foot, by the general color of the leg, which extends down near to the hoofs, leaving a white triangle in front, of which the point was elevated rather higher than the spurious hoofs."—Godman's Natural History, vol. ii., p. 314. W. C. B.

It was a hundred years ago
    When, by the woodland ways,
The travellers saw the wild deer drink,
    Or crop the birchen sprays.
Beneath a hill, whose rocky side
    O'erbrowed a grassy mead,
And fenced a cottage from the wind,
    A deer was wont to feed.
She only came when on the cliffs
    The evening moonlight lay,
And no man knew the secret haunts
    In which she walked by day.
White were her feet, her forehead showed
    A spot of silvery white,

That seemed to glimmer like a star
In autumn's hazy night.
And here, when sang the whippoorwill,
She cropped the sprouting leaves,
And here her rustling steps were heard
On still October eves.
But when the broad midsummer moon
Rose o'er that grassy lawn,
Beside the silver-footed deer
There grazed a spotted fawn.
The cottage dame forbade her son
To aim the rifle here;
"It were a sin," she said, "to harm
Or fright that friendly deer.
"This spot has been my pleasant home
Ten peaceful years and more;
And ever, when the moonlight shines,
She feeds before our door.
"The red men say that here she walked
A thousand moons ago;
They never raise the war whoop here,
And never twang the bow.
"I love to watch her as she feeds,
And think that all is well
While such a gentle creature haunts
The place in which we dwell."
The youth obeyed, and sought for game
In forests far away;
Where, deep in silence and in moss,
The ancient woodland lay.

But once in autumn's golden hue
He ranged the wild in vain,
Nor roused the pheasant nor the deer,
And wandered home again.
The crescent moon and crimson eve
Shone with a mingling light;
The deer, upon the grassy mead,
Was feeding full in sight.
He raised the rifle to his eye,
And from the cliffs around,
A sudden echo, shrill and sharp,
Gave back its deadly sound.
Away, into the neighboring wood,
The startled creature flew,
And crimson drops at morning lay
Amid the glimmering dew.
Next evening shone the waxing moon
As brightly as before;
The deer upon the grassy mead
Was seen again no more.
But ere that crescent moon was old,
By night the red-men came,
And burnt the cottage to the ground,
And slew the youth and dame.
Now woods have overgrown the mead,
And hid the cliffs from sight;
There shrieks the hovering hawk at noon,
And prowls the fox at night.

C. F. Herlacher reported shooting several white-footed deer in Clinton County, about 1885 to 1888, belonging to the "little deer" variety. Also, "Pete" Good, a Negro hunter, killed such a specimen near Rote, in Nittany Valley, about 1882.

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JIM JACOBS, *Indian elk hunter*

VI.

EASTERN WAPITI, OR "ELK".

Cervus canadensis (Erxleben). "Gray Moose"; "Virginia Stag"; "Wild Horse"; "Horse".

Michael Quigley, descendant of Waldensian martyrs, first of the name in Central Pennsylvania in his celebrated "Hunting Diary" calls the elks "wild horses", as without their horns they looked like a band of wild horses, and hunting elks was always styled by him as "horse hunting."

The "Flag Swamp Elk", taken in November, 1867, in Elk Co., by an Indian of the Cattaraugus reservation named Jim Jacobs, appears to have been one of the last of its race in the Allegheny Mountains, unless it shall be proved that some existed later in the mountain wilds of West Virginia. He is also said to have killed one in Potter County in 1875.

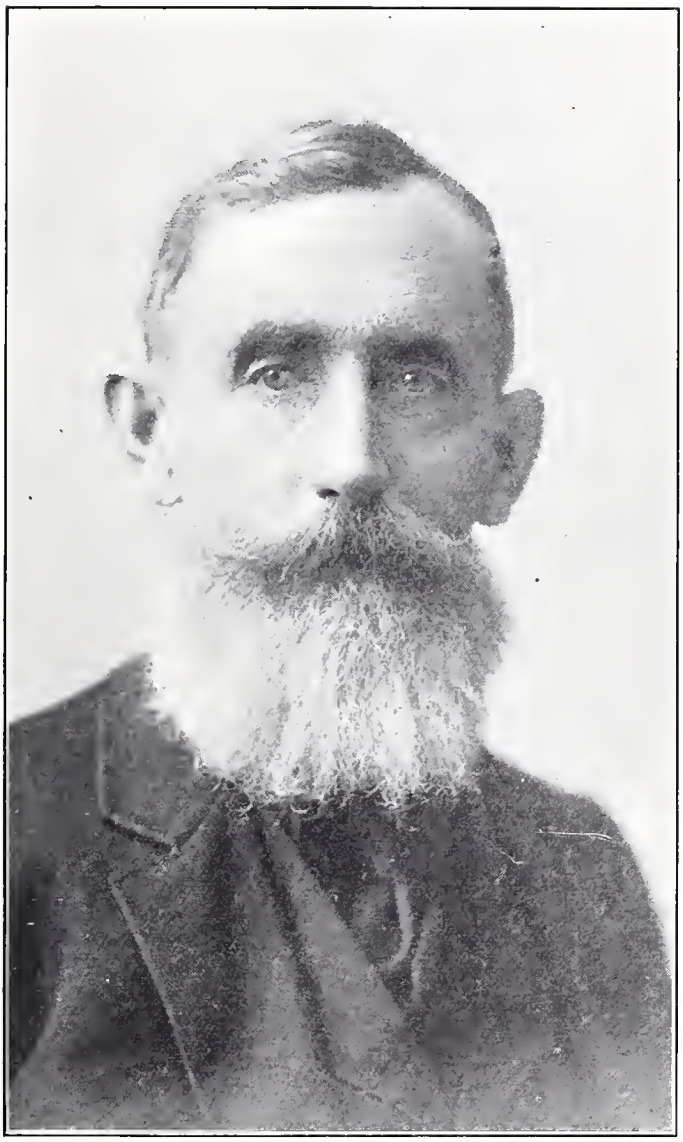
Col. Noah Parker, of Gardeau, Pa., stated in April, 1896: "There are scattered through the woods, generally high on the hills, from the Allegheny River down to the West Branch and Clarion River, huge rocks, some detached boulders and other projections of ledges. These are known as elk rocks, and every one of them has been, in its day, the last resort of some elk brought to bay by a wolf pack after a long and hard chase and there fought its last battle with hoofs and horns until brought down." (Quotation from Rhoads' "Mammals of Pa. and N. J.").

Clinton Co.—Between 1831 and 1837 I used to hunt elks in this and adjoining counties.—Seth I. Nelson.

Extracts from S. I. Nelson's hunting diaries, 1830-1837:

1830—Elks.....4	1831—Elks.....4	1832—Elks.....6
1833—Elks.....6	1834—Elks.....2	1835—Elks.....1
1836—Elks.....4	1837—Elks.....1	

In Maynard's "History of Clinton County" it is stated, (page 155), that the last elk in Clinton County was killed in Grugan Township. This is the elk that James David killed and brought to Lock Haven on a raft, in 1872, according to a statement made to the compiler of this book by his son, the late Flavius J. David, of Lock Haven; in 1865 by other authorities. Jacob S. Quiggle, of Pine Station, who died in 1911, inclined to the "1865" date, and saw the elk when it was landed at Lock Haven dam. He describes it as a young bull, red in color, for it was in rafting season, in the spring of the year, the horns being in the velvet. In 1917, when digging the foundations for a monument to be erected at Zeller's (Sellaire's) spring, in Sugar Valley, in honor of Chief James Logan, the coronet of an elk horn was uncovered in the mud about the spring. It was probably a hundred years old, and in a perfect state of preservation, and is now in the compiler's collection. John G. Hamersley, of McElhattan, (1851-1928), saw a bull elk on Cow Run Branch and a bull elk on Elk Horn Branch of Kettle Creek, near the Clinton County border in 1868 and 1869 respectively. The famous "great elk lick" was at the mouth of Prouty Run, on East Fork of Sinnemahoning, not far from the above, and there hundreds of head of game could be seen at one time, like an African "water hole."



THOMAS G. SIMCOX

(1839—1914)

VII.

EASTERN MOOSE.

Alces americanus, (Jardine) "Black Moose"; "Original", "Mose", "Stump-Harsh".

The Moose came down from the North in particularly severe winters. They were killed in Centre, Clearfield, and Blair Counties. so undoubtedly they crossed Clinton County in their migrations. I think that the Poorman family were the last Clinton County hunters who had killed these magnificent animals.—J. Q. Dyce, 1903.

I have a set of moose horns that my father got on the West Branch of the Penobscot River in Maine, in 1885, but I have heard him say that the Indians, at his boyhood home on Kettle Creek, declared that the Black Moose or Original visited northern Clinton County as late as about 1800. John Smoke, the old Seneca Indian who lived across the creek from Round Island, at the mouth of Three Runs, made the same statement, that the moose migrated through Clinton County.—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1920.

When the Pennsylvania Dutch pioneers travelled through northeastern Pennsylvania they often came upon the Moose standing in the small lakes and swampy ponds, among the tall fire blackened pine stabs and stumps, feeding on the lily pods and stems, and pulling up the bulbs growing in the muddy bottoms. To those of them who were

not hunters these were the only occasions when they saw the giant swarthy animal which the earliest settlers called the Original, and with their descriptive sense always alert gave it a name of their own, Stump-harsh, or the stag of the stump country. The Indians always called it the Mose, but the English and Scotch-Irish called it "Black Moose", to distinguish it from the Gray Moose, or Wapiti, and the French Canadian trappers in Pennsylvania always called it *Orignal,* or Original. Thomas G. Simcox said that in severe winters when the Moose Jay *(Perisoreus Canadensis)* visited Clinton County the Indians at the camp on Nichols Run where he spent much of his boyhood days would remark that in the old days it was a sure sign to prepare for the coming of the "Mose" from the north. According to the Seneca Indians the Moose Bird rode on the backs of the great stags when they travelled in deep forests, but in the open, or when crossing streams flew on ahead, and if they detected hunters would start to scream and chatter giving the Moose ample opportunity to turn about and put miles between themselves and their enemies. The Indians said that the Moose always travelled by the same paths, as was the custom of the Buffaloes, but more rapidly.

Thomas G. Simcox, in 1903, said that Thomas Poorman, an old hunter of Wayne Township, who died in 1865, assisted his father kill the last moose, a small cow, in Clinton County on Fish Dam Run, in 1805, while returning from a surveying trip with State surveyors and Peter Pentz, the Ranger.

J. W. ZIMMERMAN ON THE BUFFALO PATH, 1915

VIII.

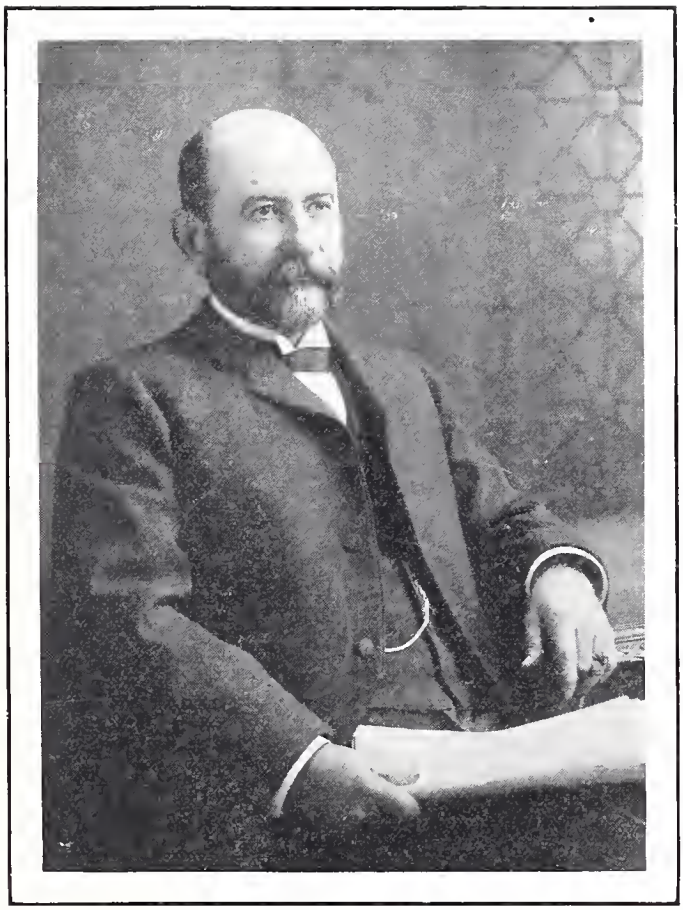
AMERICAN BISON OR BUFFALO.

Bison bison (Linnæus). "Wild Bull"; "Bull".

According to the earliest settlers of what is now Clinton County the bison migrated between the Great Lakes and regions south of Pennsylvania every spring and fall. In the spring when the red-bud bloomed they would come over the Buffalo Path from Buffalo Valley, Union County, into Clinton County, thence across Sugar Valley to the West Branch Valley, and northward, after crossing Bald Eagle Creek near its confluence with the Susquehanna River into the Black Forest. The migrations were soon frustrated by the settlers, who slaughtered the bison around Great Island by the thousands and sent their hides on rafts to John Harris' trading house at Harris Ferry, later Louisbourg, now Harrisburg. Travellers told of sheds at the "Ferry" jammed full of buffalo hides, most of which came from the West Branch country. The two greatest annual slaughters of bison always took place near Great Island in the fall, and in Buffalo Valley in the spring. The survivors north and south gradually dwindled, until the last in Pennsylvania were apparently killed off as follows: Last herd (only about 300 individuals) in Boonestiel's Sink, in White Mountains of Union County, crusted and killed to the last one in 1799, last killed in Buffalo Valley, shot by Col. John Kelly, 1801, last seen in Buffalo Valley driven through Nar-

row Point in direction of Lewistown by Jacob Weikert,1808, last in Northumberland County killed by Frederick Stamm, 1810 (hide re-sold at Boalsburg, Pa., 1917, and now in the collection of Col. Theodore Davis Boal), last in southern Pennsylvania killed by Frederick Shank, in the Glades of Somerset County, 1810. The last in Clinton County evidently met its death at one of the many "Bull Runs" or "Bull Hollows", as the pioneer hunters invariably referred to the bison as "Wild Bulls" or "Bulls". John Q. Dyce placed the date at 1798 or 1799 and the slayer Ensign Philip Quigley, of Revolutionary fame, who died at Pine Station in 1800. Quigley's grandson, the late Jacob S. Quiggle, (1821-1911) stated that the bison of Pennsylvania were dark brown, almost black in color, the hair was short and woolly, and the horns longer and more upturned than the bison of the Western States, and bodies slimmer and rangier. The fall migration of bison usually commenced with the blooming of the mountain ash or "Quicken Tree."

In the forest, along Buffalo Path Run, Clinton County, is standing the stump of a hemlock tree cut by Ario Pardee's loggers in 1868, which showed where it had been rubbed by the migrating bison, according to J. W. Zimmerman, and the deep tracks of the bison are still visible near this tree, where the old buffalo path does not follow the part of the path used for public travel. There is a huge dead chestnut tree still standing on Lick Run, Union County, the bark rubbed off by bison. Buffalo wallows are still to be seen along Buffalo Creek, Union County, according to Dr. T. K. Wood, of Muncy, Pa.



DR. W. T. HORNADAY

IX.

NORTHERN GRAY OR BLACK SQUIRREL.

Sciurus carolinensis leucotis (Gapper).

I have a good series of Clinton County gray and black squirrels in my collection. For some reason the grays become more abundant the further south one travels in the State, and the Susquehanna River marks the main boundary of the two types.—A. K. Pierce, 1920.

Clinton Co.—Blacks as numerous as gray in 1899, —Hays.

Black phase rare south of Elk and Clinton Cos.—Todd.

Blacks less numerous than the gray in 1901.—Pfoutz.

Sometimes black outnumber grays 3 to 1, and sometimes grays seem more numerous.—Nelson.

During two trips into the region north of Round Island, covering about 5 weeks' hunting, I saw about half a dozen squirrels of this species, one of which was intense black, another smoky gray, the rest normal gray. They are rare on the mountain tops and were not abundant anywhere in the spring of 1896 and fall of 1898.—Rhoads.

A fine black squirrel killed at Glen Union, on Backer's or Mill Run, by Harvey Eyer, in fall of 1919, was sent to the compiler of this book, and is now in his collection at McElhattan.

Gray squirrels had a great migration northward in 1863, in fall of the year swimming the river near present McElhattan Bridge. Hundreds were shot or killed with clubs. In the Allegheny ridges it is stated that they were attacked by black squirrels.—J. H. Chatham, 1917.

While hunting black squirrels in the Backertown region, back of the present Glen Union, Mr. Chatham became acquainted with a noted girl Nimrod, Miss Tennessee Claflin, daughter of Reuben Buckman Claflin, who lived near the former home of John Backer, said to be a German baron, "King of the Narrows," in Grugan Township, and who was in the woods with her father, barking squirrels. Claflin, though a one-eyed man, was considered the best shot in Clinton County. "Tennie", afterwards Lady Cook, wife of Sir Francis Cook, of Thomas Cook & Sons, of London, was of the dark Pennsylvania type, her mother having been a Hummel of Hummel's Wharf, below Sunbury, and in those days in the early sixties, wore curly bobbed hair and short skirts, forerunners of her famous advocacy of Woman's Rights. Mr. Chatham a young boy, was tall for his age, and was noticed by this lovely Diana, who was an ardent sportswoman though she expressed a dislike for taking animal or bird life, and was an excellent trout fisher with the fly. Later she came to New York and opened a stock brokerage office, then started a Woman's Rights Magazine, made speeches, and soon became one of the most noted women in the Metropolis. Francis McNeil Bacon, a New York banker, who met her at that time, stated that her manners were naturally refined, and there was nothing about her to indicate a backwoods origin, in fact she was as gentle and feminine as Mrs. Pankhurst. (At that time all advocates of Woman's Suffrage were accused of being "mannish".) The late William M. Allison, Jr., of Altoona, son of the founder of the Altoona Tribune who interviewed her several times, gives the same high opinion of her personality.

Barking squirrels consisted of hitting the branch of a tall tree, on which the squirrel was perched, with a rifle ball, either stunning the squirrel or breaking its neck by the shock, thereby causing it to fall. "Jake" Karstetter was considered next to "Buck" Claflin, the greatest barker of squirrels in Clinton County.

X.

CANADIAN CHICKAREE OR PINE SQUIRREL; "PINEY"

Sciurus hudsonicus gymnicus (Bangs).

Pine squirrels or "Pinies" are becoming scarce throughout all of Clinton County. Reckless shooting, the decline of the food supply, due to chestnut and hickory blights, and cutting away of the forests will make this interesting animal rarer as the years go by. With half the care taken that is given to the deer, the "piney" could be continued indefinitely in the Clinton County woodlands.

—J. H. Chatham, 1922.

XI

SOUTHEASTERN CHICKAREE OR RED SQUIRREL.

Sciurus hudsonicus loquax (Bangs).

Due to lack of protection the red squirrel is becoming scarce throughout Clinton County, though it is still found in limited numbers, in all of the townships of the County. Victim of vicious propaganda it is slated for extermination, yet if the slayers would stop to realize that before there were hunters there were more grey squirrels and more birds than to-day, they would see how cleverly they were being duped by powder companies, and various agencies anxious to explain away the decrease in wild life by other than the true cause—man's reckless misuse of guns, traps, snares, and poisons, and the destruction of the food supply of the wild creatures, by man's hand.

—J. H. Chatham, 1922.

DAVID A. ZIMMERMAN

(1821—1899)

XII

NORTHEASTERN CHIPMUNK.

Tomias striatus lysteri (Richardson).

On the basis of palest specimens those in the collection coming from Eaglesmere, Sullivan Co., and from the mountain tops of Clinton, McKean and Cambria Cos., are nearest lysteri.—Rhoads.

I have noted the pale type of chipmunk in the higher levels of Clinton County, notably in the region of Savage Mountain, on Kettle Creek, which the natives claim has an altitude of over 3,000 feet. The southeastern chipmunk, Tamias Striatus (Linnæus) or ground squirrel is a familiar figure all over the roadsides of Clinton County. It is much persecuted by dogs and cats, and is apparently diminishing in numbers near to towns and villages where these domestic annoyers are harbored.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

"PETE" GOOD

XIII

SOUTHEASTERN WOODCHUCK OR GROUND HOG.

Arctomys monax (Linnæus).

The southeastern ground hog of the Upper Austral and Transition Zones is numerous in Clinton County, but I believe that the subspecies "canadensis" of the Canadian zone is found in the northern part of the county, as many of the woodchucks caught up country seem to be larger and darker than those of the lowlands and eastern townships. The ground hog, like the English sparrow, has been little studied, and probably will not be unless a cataclysm should bring it to the verge of extinction. It is an animal worthy of protection and several Legislatures have resoluted unsuccessfully in its favor as it is the best of eating, being most cleanly in its habits, its fur makes fine caps, collars and gloves, if taken late in the season, and if allowed to increase in uninhabited regions, as is the case in Clinton County, certainly does no harm to anyone or anything.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

E. J. Swinehart, of McElhattan, Clinton County, for several years, from 1923, kept a live coal black groundhog as a pet; its hair was short and shone like the skin of a beaver. A white groundhog was seen in Sugar Valley, in Green Township, up to about 1925. In northern Clinton County, and across the Potter County line little is said concerning the superstition of the ground hog seeing his

shadow on Candlemas Day, February 2. In those northerly regions it is the black bear that is supposed to come out of his winter quarters, to investigate the further duration of winter. It is curious, but in the transition life zone of Clinton County and in the Austral life zone in adjoining counties the ground hog is the animal always referred to with reference to Candlemas Day. It seems to be a continental superstition originally, and is prevalent today in the French, Swiss and Italian Alps where bears until recently were plentiful, and which is also the habitat of the marmot, a European animal closely resembling our ground hog. But why it should be the bear in Potter County, New York State and Canada, and the ground hog further south, folklorists as yet have reached no conclusion. This was one of the topics set for the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Folk Lore Society, at Boy Scout Camp, McElhattan, Clinton County, July 24-25, 1926.

Dr. Joseph H. Kalbfus, *father of Pennsylvania Game Department.*

XIV

VIRGINIA FLYING SQUIRREL.

Sciuropterus volans (Linnæus).

Nests of these squirrels in punky oaks were fairly numerous near home of E. J. Swinehart, McElhattan (Clinton County) on property of compiler of this book in 1925. They are probably in their old haunts again this year, 1926. The compiler saw several in 1924 in his front yard at McElhattan, and previous to that had seen them there off and on during practically his entire lifetime. They seemed more plentiful, however, twenty-five years ago.

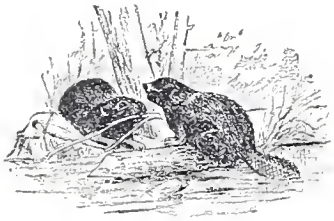
There are several Clinton County specimens of the flying squirrel in my collections. These animals always had a peculiar interest for me, and I loved to watch them flying from tree to tree between sunset and dusk. In their homes in hollow trees they bring forth five to seven young. A. K. Pierce, 1921.

Tesla Ricker, a young sportsman of McElhattan, in 1924, captured a pair of flying squirrels in a dead tree cut by linemen between Youngdale and Castanea, Clinton County, which he kept for several months in a cage in the window of his father's store at McElhattan. To quote Dr. W. T. Hornaday "in captivity they are quite worthless for exhibition for in the day time there is nothing to be seen save a small and wholly uninteresting ball of fur." Mr. Ricker's flying squirrels were a dark brown in color, darker

than as described in Rhoads' "Mammals of Pennsylvania and New Jersey," and the tree where they harbored, which was cut in December, harbored at least fifty of these animals.

When cutting wood in Clinton County, I have felled a hollow oak, which sometimes would contain a dozen flying squirrels.—W. J. Phillips, 1926.

FRANK d'APP



XV

NORTHEASTERN OR CANADA BEAVER, "CASTOR", "CASTOR CAT".

Castor canadensis (Kuhl, 1820). *Castor canadensis* (Kuhl, Beitrage Zur. Zool. u. Vergl, Anat. p .64).

The beaver dams on White Deer Creek, below the forks were apparent until the stream was cleaned out by Mike Courtney to run logs for Ario Pardee in 1865-6. The beavers had been driven out a few years earlier, but there were constantly recurring rumors of beaver workings in the smaller tributary streams in Lycoming and Clinton Counties.—George Huff, 1915.

Clinton Co.—An old beaver dam on Fishing Creek..... Hays.

Seth I. Nelson, who hunted in the thirties in Potter (and Tioga) Cos., when these counties were largely covered with virgin forest, and the elk, wolf and pekan were still numerous, never met with living beaver. In contrast with this we have the following statement from his son, Seth Nelson, (Jr.): "The last (beaver) taken in this state was killed on Pine Creek nine years ago (1884). A part of Pine Creek is in Clinton Co., part in Potter Co. and part in Tioga Co., but the beaver was started in Potter Co. and followed down through Tioga Co., and killed in Clinton Co." —See Rhoads, Proc. Acad. N. Sci., Phila., 1897, P. 210.

I believe that all the upland marshes were originally made by beavers. Wherever there are swamps of that kind I learn of the early prevalence of beavers in that locality. The Indians had considerable trouble in eastern Clinton County trying to stop the white intruders from trapping their beavers, and where the present Cranberry Bog covers the mountain top, between Pine Station and Loganton, Chief James Logan is reputed to have trapped many beavers.—J. H. Chatham, 1917.

J. I. Fleming, of Snow Shoe, Centre County, says that the beavers had dams in Clinton County, on main run of Beech Creek, until the building of the New England Splash Dams and the log driving operations on that stream in 1870. John Q. Dyce, in 1900, stated that there was a log showing marks of beaver's teeth in McElhattan Run until 1865 flood carried it away, and that John Stake, of McElhattan, who had trapped beavers all his life secured the last beaver in Kammerdiner Run, a tributary of McElhattan Run, in 1863. Beavers were unsuccessfully introduced in McElhattan Run, by State Game Commission in 1920, and were studied by late J. H. Chatham, who lay concealed by rocks and logs and watched the industrious little animals at work. A cold contracted, it was during the month of November, is said to have caused the complications responsible for this great naturalist's death in May, 1923.

The birds and beasts and flowers lost their truest friend in the passing of John H. Chatham, noble and truehearted gentleman.—C. H. Shearer, 1923.

A. K. PIERCE, *Clinton County Naturalist*

XVI

MILLER'S DEER MOUSE.

Peromyscus canadensis (Miller).

This large, forest-hunting species has been taken in its most typical form in the following localities: Clinton Co., High Mts., above Round Island, 2; Sullivan Co., Eaglesmere, 5; Lake Ganoga, 4.

Have found the deer mouse in Wayne Township rarely, but it is most prevalent in the high country along Jersey Shore-Coudersport turnpike.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XVII

FISCHER'S DEER MOUSE.

Peromyscus leucopus noveboracensis (Fischer).

I think that I put more time studying Fischer's Deer Mouse than any other of our Clinton County mammals. When Dr. Witte of the University of Pennsylvania visited at my home in 1895 we went into the most minute details concerning its life's history, and he was amazed at the new light which came to him, mostly from the points I gave to aid in his own observations. I had hoped that Dr. Witte would use Fischer's Deer Mouse for his doctor's thesis, but he probably thought that other topics were more permanently interesting.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XVIII

ALLEGHENY CAVE RAT.

Neotoma pennsylvanica (Stone).

Clinton Co.—Abundant in all parts of the Co., coming down the mountains in winter into the barns along the Sinnemahoning Valley. Frequenting rock piles in the high, flat woods and cliffs and caves on the mountain sides. About fifty specimens examined from this county, from Round Island, Renovo and Drury's Run.—Rhoads.

Abundant in the rocky woods around Mill Hall.—Pfouts.

Still found a few Cave rats in Green's Gap, in the rocky dens, when White Deer Lumber Company were operating there about 1913.—J. W. Zimmerman, 1915.

Cave rats abounded in the rocky chasms of Fish Dam Run when log slides were being built there in 1892.—T. G. Simcox, 1910.

Art. Vallon told me that the cave rat lived in some of the precipices along Kettle Creek until the new road was built about 1902.—A. K. Pierce, 1919.

XIX

GAPPER'S WOOD VOLE, OR RED-BACK MOUSE.

Evotomy's gapperi (Vigors).

Specimens examined.—Clinton Co., 10. Rhoads.

The red-back mouse of Clinton County is an old friend of mine, and I have often studied him and his quaint and curious ways. I once wrote a life's history of the Wood-Vole, but nobody wanted to publish it, and it seems to me that much original data concerning the smaller and less widely-known mammals is lost by the lack of interest taken in scientific papers. Some day I will try and locate this little brochure, and perhaps a way can be found that it can be published.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

(After Mr. Chatham's death in 1923 a number of nature papers were found among his effects, but to date the life's history of the red-back mouse has not been brought to light. —H. W. S.)

XX

PENNSYLVANIA MEADOW VOLE, OR COMMON MEADOW MOUSE.

Microtus pennsylvanicus (Ord.).

All dwellers in the rural sections of Clinton County know the common meadow mouse, as its nests are turned up by the plough, or it is seen nestled in some quiet corner of the hay field. It is a picturesque little mammal, and well worthy of closer scrutiny. I had hoped for a younger generation of naturalists to come on who would devote themselves to the lesser known Pennsylvania mammals, but outside of J. Herbert Walker the list of younger men is a meagre one.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XXI

NORTHERN PINE-WOODS VOLE, OR MOLE MOUSE.

Microtus pineforum scalopsoides (Audubon and Bachman).

Specimens examined.—Pa.: Clinton Co., above R. Island (1800 ft.) 4.—Rhoads.

The mole mouse, like the wolf and the panther, vanished with the cutting away of larger timber tracts in Clinton County. The last were noted in the extensive lumbering operations on Hyner Run from 1899 to 1904 among the higher mountains there.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XXII

SOUTHEASTERN MUSKRAT, "MUSHRAT".

Fiber zibethicus (Linnæus).

A great, but not appreciated stand-by of the Clinton County fur supply. Most numerous in West Branch of Susquehanna River, where they are trapped at all seasons, and also found in most of the larger tributary streams, though they shun the sulphur of mine pollution on streams like lower Kettle Creek. The muskrat seems to be holding its own, and putting up a grim fight for existence pending a more enlightened sentiment in its favor.

—J. H. Chatham, 1922.

XXIII

HUDSON BAY ZAPUS, OR MEADOW JUMPING MOUSE.

Zapus hudsonius (Zimmerman.).

During Dr. Witte's visit in 1895 we had lots of fun studying the playful habits of the "Zapus". The very name would make the genial doctor laugh, although he said it was an animal about which his learned preceptor, Dr. E. D. Cope, had been anxious to know more of. In those days the meadow jumping mouse was more plentiful in Wayne township, and other parts of Clinton County than it is today and it strikes me as sad to see the steady lessening in numbers of our little known and smaller mammals before their life's histories and place in Nature's scheme were properly recorded.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XXIV

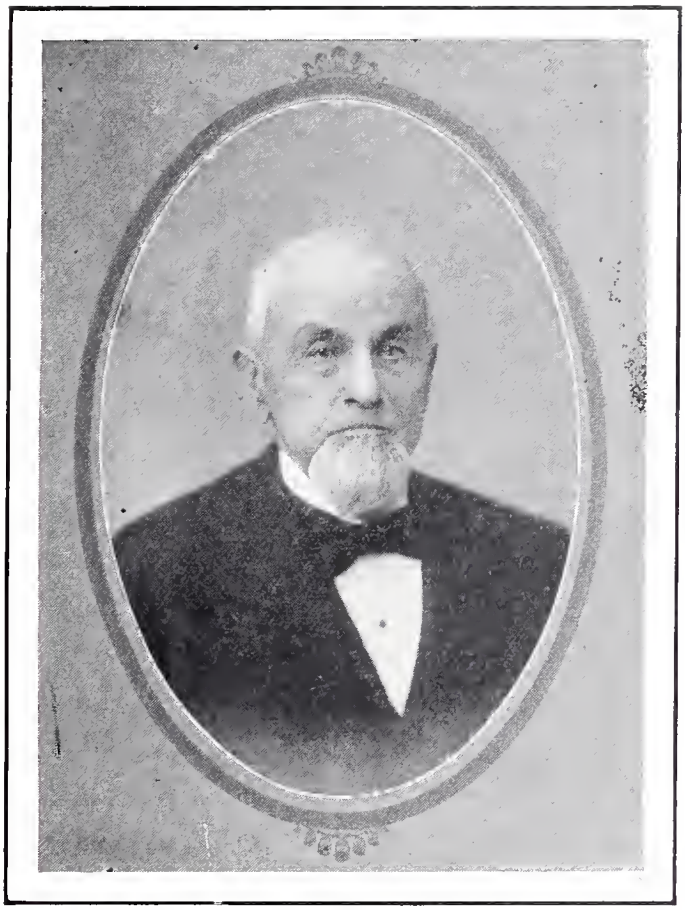
MILLER'S WOODLAND JUMPING MOUSE.

Zapus insignis (Miller.).

Records in Pa.—Clinton Co., stated to have been seen among the trout streams by Nelson and Pierce.

The Jumping Mouse used to frequent the big hemlocks in the Torbert tract below the falls of McElhattan Run, before the timber was cut about five years ago. I have not seen any in that locality, or elsewhere since that time.—T. G. Simcox, 1905.

There were a few jumping mice in evidence along Lick Run when we first moved here after the panic of '73.—Henry Cammal, Haneyville, 1901.



JACOB S. QUIGGLE

(1821—1911)

XXV

CANADA PORCUPINE; "HEDGEHOG", "PORKY".

Erethizon dorsatum (Linnæus).

Young woodsmen unacquainted with wild animals claimed that there was a wolf in a rhododendron thicket near Mike Courtney's camp near McCall's Dam. One day I decided to investigate, armed only with a small pistol. The animal was tuning up like a threshing machine, getting underway, so I knew what it was. I went in boldly, and came out dragging a 40 pound Porcupine, the biggest I'd ever seen and we had a royal feast on him at camp that night. We told Hon. L. A. Mackey that it was a young fawn, and he asked for more.—Daniel Mark, 1915.

Clinton Co.—Several specimens have been sent out from time to time by Seth Nelson, who reports them numerous. In my own experience I found this to be the case in the same region in 1898. They seemed to prefer the tops of the mountains, but sometimes came down to the banks of the Sinnemahoning.—Rhoads.

Plenty around Mill Hall in 1879.—Pfoutz.

A handsome porcupine visited Boy Scout camp at McElhattan, (Wayne Township) in August, 1926, while high school boys from Johnstown were camping there. Several excellent photographs were made of the animal which seemed very tame and sociable. A white porcupine trapped by C. E. Logue, in Otzinachson Park, near Coudersport

Pike, in Clinton County, was presented to the compiler of this book in 1916, and kept for several months in his private "Zoo". Unfortunately the odd looking creature made its escape and was not recaptured.

In the Adirondacks porcupines are protected as they are the only animal that a person lost in the woods can kill with a club for food. And they make the best of eating, as they are cleanly animals, living largely on grass and clover in season. In Pennsylvania they are killed whenever seen, just because inquisitive dogs sometimes get a dose of their quills. Autos are also reducing their numbers. Hundreds are killed every season by machines along the Jersey Shore—Coudersport turnpike.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

The porcupine is a forest scavenger cleaning up the flesh, bones and horns of dead animals in hunting season. In the Otzinachson Park it was difficult to find a deer horn that had laid out over the winter that was not eaten into by the "porkies". They also eat beetles and grubs, and probably insects injurious to Pine trees. At night they make a noise something like a saxophone artist tuning up. They do not hibernate, and have two to five young ones at birth.

When I walked pipe line near North Point (Clinton County) twenty-five years ago I shot a big porcupine before I knew what it was. When I mentioned it to the lady where I boarded that night she said that I should have brought it in, and she would have cooked it for Sunday dinner.—J. W. Zimmerman, 1926.

SETH IREDELL NELSON

(1809—1905)

XXVI

ALLEGHENIAN VARYING HARE; WHITE RABBIT; BIG WHITE RABBIT; SPOOK HARE; GRAVEYARD RABBIT.

Lepus americanus virginianus (Harlan).

I have a series of Clinton County specimens of the Varying Hare in my collections of mounted Pennsylvania animals.—A. K. Pierce, 1920.

Re-introduced into Clinton County by State Game Commission with "varying" success. Two varying hares were found, frozen to death in their nest at Rote, in Nittany Valley, by G. H. Phillips of McElhattan, March, 1926.

Clinton Co.—I saw one in July, 1895, near Round Island.—Nelson.

"Some left near Mill Hall, but not many".—Pfoutz, 1901.

Once abundant on the mountains near Round Island, but so decreased, that S. I. Nelson, after two years' endeavor, was unable to get me any specimens except two or three old skulls. I made special search for it in this region without finding a track in 1898. The common rabbit, once a rare or unknown species in these mountains, is now numerous there.—Rhoads, 1902. Specimens examined.—Clinton Co., 6.

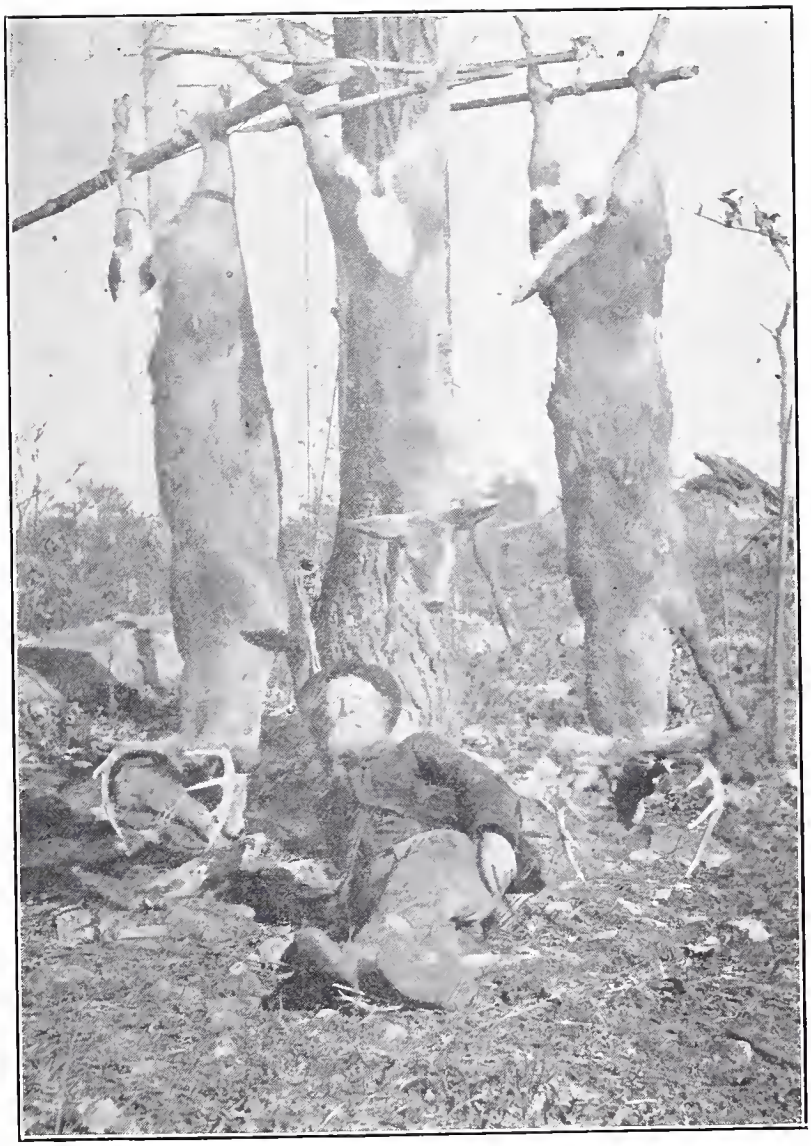
My father, Henry Stabley, an old soldier, used to make spring traps and catch the big white rabbits back of our

home, at foot of Bald Eagle Mountain, in Wayne Town- (Clinton County) forty years ago. Some of them seemed to us children as big as collie dogs. He caught a dozen or more every winter, and the fur they carried was soft, white and beautiful.—Mrs. J. W. Dyce, 1924.

There used to be lots of big white rabbits along the Bald Eagle Mountains, when I was a boy, but they grew gradually scarcer until all were gone twenty years ago.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

Boys, residing in McElhattan, hunted and occasionally shot, snared or trapped big white rabbits, during the years 1892-1895, to the knowledge of the compiler of this book, mostly along Bald Eagle mountain between McElhattan and Castanea.

Big White Rabbits were the graveyard rabbits of our colored brethren. Hence the rabbit's foot. The Indians looked upon these ghostly appearing animals with disfavor, claimed evil spirits inhabited them, and that they had the power to make themselves invisible. Sorcerers or warlocks made cloaks of their fur, but the flesh was fed to the Indian dogs, as nothing killed was ever wasted by the redmen.—Thomas G. Simcox, 1902.



SETH NELSON, *Jr.*

XXVII

ALLEGHENIAN COTTONTAIL OR RABBIT.

Lepus floridanus transitionalis. (Bangs.).

The Alleghenian Cottontail in my mind isn't as plentiful in Clinton County as the lowland type, but the valley rabbit has a more congenial habitat, while the Alleghenian form confines itself to less noticeable surroundings, and its numbers are not so easily estimated. I once thought I would start a natural history collection of Clinton County animals and birds, but after I had set up the rabbit specimens, and no one else seemed interested except my kiddies who coveted them at Easter time for playthings, I laid aside the task, though it would have been easier to make such a collection then—it was the fall of 1895—than to-day. The Alleghenian rabbit is larger and generally slightly lighter in color than its lowlander relative.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XXVIII

SOUTHEASTERN, OR LOWLAND COTTONTAIL OR RABBIT.

Lepus floridanus mallurus (Thomas).

When Dr. Witte was with me in 1895, I tried to explain to him that we had in Clinton County both forms of Brer Rabbit, the southeastern or lowland form, and the Alleghenian cottontail, and from the skins I showed him I believe that he was convinced. It is a difficult task to separate these rabbit varieties, but I am confident, like Mr. Rhoads, that they exist in this County. I mounted up a number of the skins, just for fun, after Dr. Witte had left and my little girls soon learned the difference between the "Valley" and the "Mountain top bunnies," as they called them. It is smaller and darker than the rabbit of our higher altitudes. —J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XXIX

HARBOR SEAL; SEA DOG, MERMAID.

Phoca vitulina (Linnæus).

The year of the Great Runaway, 1778, there was great confusion in the West Branch Valley. Everything was deserted, and few signs of human habitation visible. One of the few who remained was Michael Quigley, hardy frontiersman, who worried lest his carefully cleared "Meadow Sweet Farms" became a part and parcel of the hated redmen's belongings. One cold night late in December, it was either Christmas Eve or Christmas night, "Captain" Quigley, as they called him, was seated on the river bank, on a log, in front of his home near where the present "iron bridge" crosses the West Branch at Spook Hollow, between Pine Station and McElhattan, watching for swans, as he wanted one for his Christmas dinner. The river was frozen but there were many large air holes. Suddenly a round black head appeared through an air hole, and Quigley fearing lest it was an Indian fired instantly, and ran out on the ice. The shot was well timed, and the head disappeared, but the old rifleman reached the air hole in time to see the object bob up against it when it rose after sinking. It was no Indian, but looked like a bear, so he seized it by the fur, and held it until he slipped his belt about it and made it fast. Taking out his tomahawk he chopped away the ice, and dragged his prize on top of the frozen surface

EMMANUEL HARMAN

of the river. It was a "Sea Dog", probably a Harbor Seal, as its description tallies with specimens taken as far inland as Onondaga Lake, and Lake Champlain, in New York State, and on the Delaware and the Hudson rivers. Quigley entered it thus in his hunting diary: (which is in Pennsylvania Dutch)—"24-25 December: Shot from river bank while watching for swans, one Sea Dog, color cream with dark brown spots. Length, 5 feet 4 inches, weight 67 lbs. Will tan the hide and make a cradle rug for little Mike." This little Mike was his favorite grandson, a son of Michael Quigley, Jr., who carried the news of the signing of the Pine Creek or Tiadaghton Declaration of Independence to Philadelphia two years earlier, and an ancestor of Major R. S. Quigley, of Lock Haven. This seems to be one of the few records of the seal in Clinton County, although there are accounts of seals killed in the river below Sunbury, later in the year when there was no ice. It is wondered if in his excitement the Captain forgot to secure his swan for the Christmas dinner?

Seals were occasionally noticed in the Sinnemahoning, within the borders of Clinton County, by Old John Smoke, the Indian hunter when he had his cabin at the mouth of Three Runs. — Seth I. Nelson, 1899.

A dead seal, much decomposed, was washed ashore near mouth of Pine Creek about 1830, and it was said to be a girl who disappeared from Great Island but was finally identified as a mermaid or seal.—J. S. Quiggle, 1909.

Panther driven from Clinton County; killed in Centre County by Lewis Dorman, Dec. 24, 1868.

XXX

ALLEGHENIAN COUGAR; "PANTHER"; "PAINTER"; "PENNSYLVANIA LION"; "BROWN TIGER"; "TIGER TAIL"; "BENDER"—(Pa. German.)

Felis couguar (Kerr.).

I have a panther skull in my collection, a young specimen that was killed in the vicinity of Ridgway (Elk Co.) about 1863, and much regret that I do not have any from Clinton County.—A. K. Pierce, 1920.

When I was a boy, in the sixties, I can remember when old Jim David, the surveyor, with his long staff, would stalk into Lock Haven with a burlap bag full of panther kittens over his shoulder. His coming was always the delight and wonderment of the small boys. I understood that he secured the young panthers in the Beech Creek region of Clinton County.—A. S. Mackey, 1919.

In Pennsylvania they have not been killed, so far as I can substantiate the accounts which have been published, since 1871, though one statement would imply that 2 had been killed in Clinton or Clearfield Co. in 1891.—S. N. Rhoads.

A bounty was paid on a panther's scalp in Centre County in 1886. (See Warren's "Diseases and Enemies of Poultry," Harrisburg, 1897.)

John Hamersley, ***Sr., wolf and panther hunter***

This panther was killed by John Lucas, on Rock Run, probably the last of its race in that great panther country, but had been driven there from Clinton County. John Roan killed a panther on Spruce Run, Clinton County, in 1875. and John Perry killed a panther on Yost Run in 1876. J. P. McGonigal saw a panther standing on a fallen log on Yost Run while lumbering there in 1877. George Hastings, who killed the two panthers on Big Run of Beech Creek, Clinton County, Dec. 29-30, 1871, stated in 1914, to the compiler of this book, that when at his camp in February, 1872, a male panther larger than either of the two he had killed crossed the breast of the splash dam, and lay down and rolled in the snow. Jasper Bower, an old-time Clinton County hunter, stated that during Ario Pardee's lumbering operations on White Deer Creek, for several winters (about 1875-1878) a panther was tracked into the big rhododendron jungle on an island in White Deer Creek, near mouth of the Black Gap, but the hunters never went in after it or secured it. A panther was seen by linemen on the Standard Oil Pipe line near the Zimmerman Hospice in astern Clinton County, in 1889. When the compiler first visited Loganton, in Sugar Valley, in August, 1897, he saw a mounted panther cub in Clem Herlacher's barber shop. It was one of two litters of cubs which this great hunter had abstracted from the nests in the cliffs in Treaster Valley, Mifflin County, in 1892-1893. Charles Crawford, of Chatham's Run, tells of John Hamilton, a surveyor, seeing a female panther and two cubs crossing the Coudersport Pike near Haneyville, Clinton County, in 1855. J. H. Chatham stated that in his grandparents' time a panther appeared in their pig yard at McElhattan in broad daylight,

and carried away a large sow. When the family returned a hunt was organized, but the animal was not apprehended. The panther head that was taken by Dr. Caspar Wistar to Philadelphia for dissection was from a "painter" killed in Henry Barner's pig yard in Sugar Valley.—See the amusing account of same in Maynard's "History of Clinton County."

During the Civil War a raft from up-river in Clinton and Clearfield Counties tied up in the eddy at McElhattan, and mounted on a timber stick was a magnificient specimen of a panther, the darkest colored one I had ever seen.

— J. H. Chatham, 1911.

When I was rafting before the Civil War, we tied up for the night at mouth of Moshannon. A panther recently killed was brought to the hotel by some hunters. It was a mouse color, and measured nine feet in length, and had teeth and claws like those of the African lions in John Robinson's Circus.—J. S. Quiggle, 1901.

Maynard's "History of Clinton County" gives the account of a panther killed by John Snyder, on Youngwomans Creek about 1860, which measured eleven feet from tip to tip.

A panther came around our camp on the Big Run of Beech Creek, Clinton County, when we lumbered there in the winter of 1876. My husband was away, and it got into the back kitchen, as it smelled the baby in the cradle in the main building. When my husband and the other men came back from Lock Haven they boarded up the back kitchen, and went on a hunt for the panther, which they tracked for several miles in the snow, but I think that it escaped.—Mrs. Nathan Hough, 1928.

Several of the many panthers credited to Aaron Hall, as being killed in Centre County between 1865 and 1880, were really killed across the line in Clinton County, and the carcasses taken to his home at Unionville.—Grant Hoover, 1828.

PHILIP MOYER, *panther hunter*

XXXI

EAST CANADIAN LYNX, "LUCIVEE," "DEER WOLF," "LUCIFER", "LINK", "CATAMOUNT."

Lynx canadensis (Kerr.).

John G. Davis tells of John Pluff killing a Canada lynx in a pig pen at Hyner, Clinton County, 1874. Sam Motter and the Harman boys killed an animal which they declared was a lynx at head of McElhattan Run, in 1903, Clem Herlacher has occasionally met with the Canada lynx in his forty years experience hunting wild cats in Clinton County. It was sometimes called "Catamount" by the early hunters.—J. H. Chatham, 1920.

There has been an occasional Canada lynx taken in northern Clinton County. I have seen their tracks as late as the year of the Spanish War (1898)—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1920.

The early Huguenot settlers in Clinton County, the Roques, Horlogers, Dipperys, Grenobles, Lameys, Lamasons, de Garmos, de Bennevilles, de Victors, de Longs, Motteurs, Lebos, Godchaux, Le Chars, and Le Quays, were great hunters, and some of them had encountered the European lynx in the higher mountains of Piedmont, Switzerland and Germany before coming to Pennsylvania. To them the Canada lynx, though they saw but few, was always the lucivee, a contraction of Loup Cer-

vier, or "Deer Wolf", from the animal's supposed propensity of trailing and jumping on the backs of deer. Later settlers corrupted lucivee into "Lucifer", partly because of the long hairy tips on the lynx's ears which when erected closely resembled the horns of "the deil himself", as John Q. Dyce used to say it! About a hundred years ago a family of Huguenots from Berks County, the de Garmos, built the first house on the mountain between McElhattan and Sugar Valley, and in the heart of the dense forest found game in almost as large variety, and immense numbers as in Indian days. In those early years, as Grandma de Garmo often told John Q. Dyce, the Lucifer was met with, especially about the head of the springs which feed the falls of McElhattan Run. She claimed that it was easier to track and kill than the smaller and more numerous "bob cat". Perhaps the "link", as Sam Motter called it, killed in this same region nearly a hundred years later was the last lineal descendant, or a hybrid offshoot of the true lucivees of "Mammy de Garmo's" day.

CHAUNCEY E. LOGUE

Wild Cat King of Clinton County

XXXII

EASTERN BAY LYNX; WILD CAT;
"BOB CAT", "CAT".

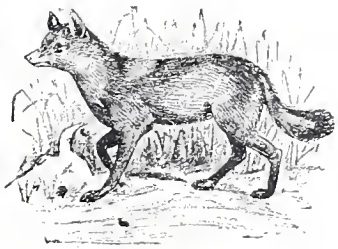
Lynx rufus (Gueldenstaedt.).

S. Marion Smith, born in 1837, a former resident of Wayne Township, Clinton County, stated that about 1845 wild cats were plentiful along the north slope of the Bald Eagle Mountains and several were "treed", and shot from the tall rock oaks which used to stand where the present McElhattan Boy Scout Camp is located. C. Adolphe Shurr, born in 1872, said that about 1892 the Dyce and Shurr boys, great hunters, treed a wild cat on the Abe Simcox place back of Bald Eagle Mountain (Wayne Twp.) and shot it; as it fell the cat clutched a branch with its teeth, and dying hung from the bough by its teeth. One of the boys climbed up the tree and chopped off the branch and two of the hunters carried the dead cat to McElhattan hanging by the teeth. H. Lucas Simcox, son of late Abe, trapped a large wild cat near this spot in February, 1924. About 1892, when the compiler of this book was a small boy wildcats were still not uncommon in Wayne township, and one used to make its headquarters under the N. Y. C. Culvert beyond Youngdale, to the terror of the youngsters. Abundant feed and rocky dens drew wild cats to Otzinachson Park, at head of Rattlesnake Run, (Clinton Co.) and although they fed mostly off carcasses of surplus deer which died of exposure were trap-

Samuel Motter, *wild cat hunter*

ped and hunted unmercifully. It was at this Park that C. E. Logue, State trapper, was located for several years as gamekeeper, and made his great reputation as an expert shot and hunter. Logue was in the habit of shooting or trapping five or six wild cats at the Park every winter. One is now in the compiler's "Zoo" at McElhattan. A few wild cats still remain in Otzinachson Park, but in the county they are becoming a rarity. Near the State Camp and Pine Swamp, south of Renovo a few are trapped every winter, also in the 'Scootac' region southwest of Farrandsville. Jake Zimmerman traps a cat about every other year in the extreme eastern part of Clinton County. In spring of 1926 Seth Nelson, Jr., said: "I see no more wild cat tracks on the mountain near my hunting camp. I used to catch three or four every winter up to about 1921, but forest fires, lack of food supply, and indiscriminate use of poison by inexperienced trappers have made the wild cat a thing of the past in these parts. Sam Motter, a noted trapper residing near Rosecrans, captured wild cats alive with his hands, and found them fairly numerous in the mountains about Sugar Valley until about 1910, when, for some reason they rapidly decreased in numbers.

THE BOUNTY ON WILD CATS SHOULD BE REMOVED.—A. A. Weimer.



XXXIII

NORTHEASTERN GRAY FOX, "COLISHAY," "DUTCH FOX."

Urocyon cinereoargenteus (Schreiber.)

The gray fox is the common fox of Clinton County. It seems to be the native and ruling species, far outnumbering the red fox, which it usually dominates. At the present time the gray fox is found in all of the townships, and despite dogs, guns, traps, and poisons maintains itself fairly well, and may be the last species left at the close of the "age of mammals." In 1926 these gray foxes had a crossing near the residence of the compiler of this book, at McElhattan, and their barking at night, generally a solitary high pitched wail, is one of the most delightful sounds of the mountain night. The damage done by foxes has been much overstated, and is admirably counterbalanced by the value of their fur, and other good qualities. Fruits, berries, roots, bugs and insects form their chief summertime diet, together with rats, mice, shrews, moles, beetles and grubs. Some of the cross-breeds are beautifully marked, and as time goes on some very handsome types are apt to be evolved to the joy of the trappers, furriers and the fair lady wearers. In the early days of the 19th Century the aristocratic young scions of the Scotch-Irish families in West Branch Valley of Clinton County organized fox-hunting clubs, to hunt "Sir Reynard"

on horseback with hounds. Only red foxes were considered worthy of their sport, and the dogs were carefully selected from the best kennels in Lancaster County and in Maryland. Red foxes were known as "English foxes", as it was claimed that the red fox had been imported to Pennsylvania from the British Isles, so when the Dutch boys in Sugar Valley began to hunt gray foxes, on foot, with packs of native long-eared or blue-tick hounds, the wealthier youths termed the Colishay in derision the "Dutch fox". For hunting on foot the gray fox was best suited, as it circled and ran to earth much quicker than the red which sometimes would tire out an English thoroughbred horse. The aristocratic youths, in time tired of their sport, sold their hounds, and sent their horses to the army in the Mexican War, but the Dutch method of fox hunting went on for many years, and a few old-time hunters of the gray fox still live in Sugar, Nittany, and Nippenose Valleys who love to tell of stirring hunts enjoyed in the good old days, when the hunter's horn echoed over the forest-guarded valleys.

XXXIV

SOUTHEASTERN RED FOX, "ENGLISH FOX."

Vulpus fulvus (Desmarest).

A white fox, with pink eyes, from its general conformation supposed to be a color phase of the red fox terrorized poultry raisers (especially those with flocks of young turkeys) in the west end of Nippenose Valley (Clinton County) about 1890. As it was thought that it was the ghost of a little boy lost in the June flood the year before, who belonged in the valley, hunters refused to shoot it. Some young men stopping at "Lochabar" organized a hunt, and it was shot, and the skin taken to Philadelphia by a banker's son, and presented to the smoking room of the Rittenhouse Club in Rittenhouse Square.

Dr. Warren records three living black or silver foxes in Pennsylvania known to him, one in Clinton Co., one near Long Lake (Ganoga), Sullivan Co., and a third in Pike Co. —Rhoads.

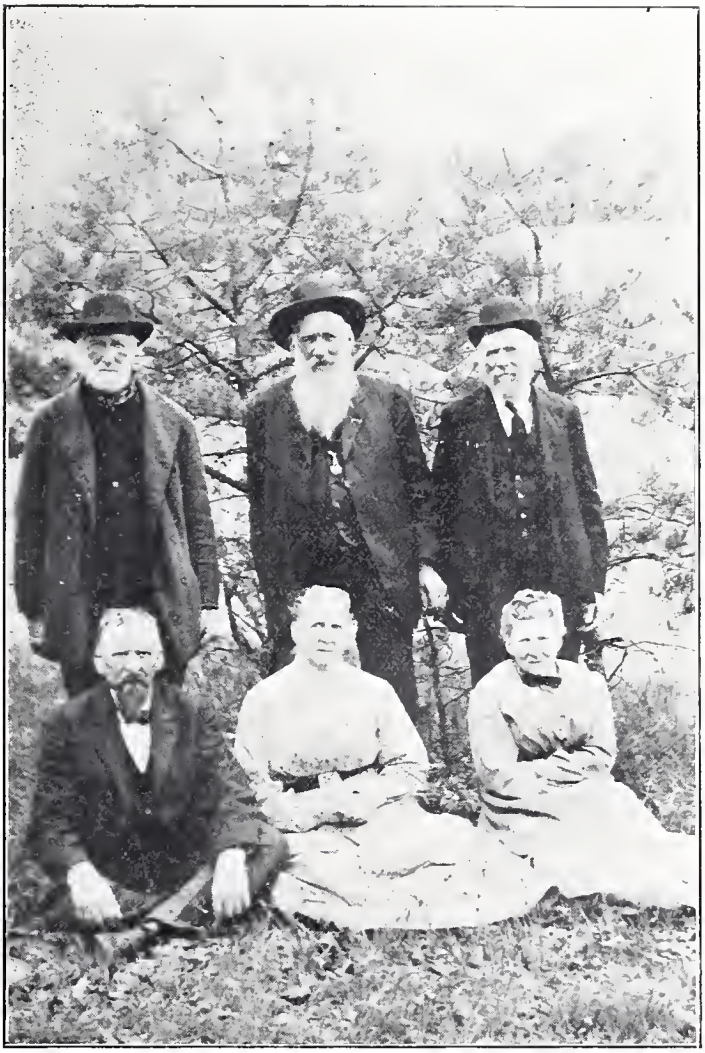
A handsome black fox hide was brought to the general store at Mackeyville, Clinton County, by a hunter, in fall of 1885. A fur buyer present bought it for six dollars by convincing the woodsman that the hair was loose and the skin practically useless. I saw the whole performance and urged the trapper not to sell his prize, but he seemed to need the money more than the advice.—J. H. Chatham, 1912.

Red Foxes are met with less frequently than grey ones all over Clinton County, but crosses between the reds and grays are becoming more numerous.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

At one time red foxes were almost as plentiful as the gray foxes around my hunting camp. Now the reds are all gone, I killed the last one a "Jim dandy" early in 1920, the biggest I ever saw and what remains are all grays, and not many of them. There are no foxes and no birds about Round Island.—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1921.

As the West Branch Valley calmed down after the Revolutionary War many young scions of old North of Ireland families revived the pastimes of their ancestors at the old home. Fox hunting clubs were organized at various points along the valley, several being located in what is now Clinton County. A favorite spot for horsemen and hounds to assemble was on the Plains, just east of Great Island, and the ridges were combed for red foxes. This sport was at its height, roughly speaking, from about 1800 until the time of the Mexican War, nearly a half century later. Nowadays most fox hunting in Clinton County is done on foot with dogs, and is called "Dutch sport" to distinguish it from the more aristocratic English method on horseback.

—J. H. Chatham, 1921.



Engle Family of Clinton County Wolf Hunters

XXXV

APPALACHIAN GRAY WOLF; TIMBER WOLF.

Canis mexicanus nubilus (Say.).

The last wolf on the Clinton County side of Pine Creek hung around our farm for several years in the late sixties. There was a wolf on Slate Run, not far from Clinton County about 1875, and I tried to shoot it to make a rug for Norman Dodge, the wealthy lumberman, who often visited the big lumber camps which supplied his saw mill near the mouth of Pine Creek.—G. J. Emery, 1916.

There were a few wolves left on Kettle Creek, in Clinton County, about Leidy P. O. when I was a boy there in the late sixties.—J. G. Hamersley, 1924.

Art. Vallon killed the last wolf on lower Kettle Creek, I should say about 1870.—A. K. Pierce, 1920.

Wolves appeared in west end of Nippenose Valley, Clinton County, coming from the direction of Little Texas Valley several times during the winter of 1868.—J. H. Laubach, 1911.

The wolves had their crossing in Sugar Valley on the John Brown Farm as late as the early seventies.—A. D. Karstetter, 1915.

"I have been told by 2 hunters that saw 2 wolves this winter about 6 miles from my place (Round Island, 1893-

94), but I have been all through that woods and see no signs of anything but lynx, wild cats and foxes."—Nelson in Proc. Acad. N. Sci., Phila., 1897, p. 221.

In Clinton County last wolf seen in Sugar Valley by J. D. Eckel, surveyor, while on Nittany Mountain, with John Beck, an old hunter about 1885.

A wolf was seen by Daniel Mark, on the Felsbarrich, near Clinton-Centre County line on White Deer waters while out with a party of huckleberry pickers, in summer of same year.

Heard wolves howling at head of McElhattan Run, near the Falls, late summer of 1870.—Emmanuel Harman, 1916.

"Black Bill" Williams says, "The last time I heard a wolf call on the Bald Eagle Mountain was one night in the fall of 1863 when I was home from the Army on a furlough."

"The wolves one night, about 1830, drove a flock of sheep out on the ice on the river near the present McElhattan Bridge, which belonged to a man named Walker they were badly cut running pell-mell on the ice, and several were killed by the wolves."—J. H. Chatham, 1916.

"In the spring and fall, towards nightfall, about 1840, so my father told me, the wolves would howl along the foot of the Bald Eagle Mountain, and could be heard plainly on the river bank a mile and a half distant."—J. C. Quiggle, 1920.

The last wolf I saw in Clinton County, was on Hyner Run, in the spring of 1872. I came upon him suddenly one morning while out trout fishing.—George Grassley, 1928.

A. K. Pierce stated that his boyhood home was near where the Pennsylvania Railroad Station in Lock Haven is now located. Up to the time that the railroad was built, about 1859, he heard the wolves howling at night on the Bald Eagle Mountain southeast of town.

Jacob S. Quiggle, of Pine Station, used to mimic the wolves with his brothers, Robert and Richard, and draw the packs of wolves off the Round Top to the edge of the woods to near the tall hickory tree where the boys were perched. A wolf followed Mr. Quiggle and his little sister to school for several days, that was about 1830, until shot by their father, George Quiggle.

"The last den of wolves was discovered by John Earon, near head of McElhattan Run, not far from the Two Wolf springs in spring of 1861. The mother wolf was killed and the eleven pups taken away by the hunter."—J. H. Chatham, 1919.

"A wolf strayed to the bluffs back of Dunnsburg in spring of 1870, and was killed by a farmer named Grugan, and the carcass exhibited in his barn for several days."—J. H. Campbell, 1917.

Maynard's History of Clinton County states that Philip Shreckengast, an old hnnter of Logan Township, killed 93 wolves in Clinton County.

Jacob Meyer, of Loganton, was followed home from Price's Church by a pack of wolves one night near the close of the Civil War, in 1865.—A. D. Karstetter, 1915.

Mrs. John Brown, of near Eastville, in Sugar Valley stated that as a child about 1865 she was not allowed to go

to school on days that the wolves were crossing the valley by the wolf's path, which was near her girlhood home.

Henry Wren said that wolves would congregate in the brush which grew out of the old "sink holes" in Sugar Valley and frighten the horses and colts pasturing in the fields, in years just prior to the Civil War.

XXXVI

NORTHEASTERN OTTER, "FISH OTTER."

Lutra canadensis (Schreber).

I see the tracks of otters every winter at mouth of White Deer Creek, coming from the river, and headed up stream; I believe that they summer at the head waters in Clinton County.—George Huff, 1915.

It was at an otter slide in Quiggle Hollow on Young Woman's Creek, in 1876, that John H. Chatham first met George W. Sears, better known as Nessmuk, America's pioneer nature writer. Both naturalists, then comparatively young men, were on their way to Westport, Clinton County, to pay their respects to General U. S. Grant, having heard that the President was visiting at the home of Col. A. C. Noyes of that place. Both Chatham and Sears had been camping in the Black Forest, near the northern borders of Clinton County, the former bee hunting, the latter trout fishing and prospecting. The antics of the otters, which they viewed unobserved from behind a huge moss-covered hemlock log made them forget about the hero of Vicksburg, and when night came on they bivouaced together in the forest. The sun was shedding a rosy tint through the tops of the giant original hemlocks when reluctantly the two great lovers of the outdoors wrapped their rafting shawls about themselves and "turned in." Otters at that time, Mr. Chatham states, were prevalent on

the various branches of Young Woman's Creek, their slides seemed to be along every branch stream, yet they were wary and few were shot. Mr. Chatham, from memory, recollected having seen otter slides in 1876 and ensuing years on the following Clinton County streams: Kettle Creek, Young Woman's Creek, Hyner Run, Chatham's Run, Upper Pine Bottom Run, 'Scootac, Fishing Creek, McElhattan Run, Henry Run, and Kearns' Run, the last three streams near his home at McElhattan. Seth Nelson in 1920 stated that pollution had driven the otter away from the Sinnemahoning Creek in Northern Clinton County, and he had not seen any recent otter signs. Otters have been shot or trapped in Clinton County every year but these are migratory animals caught unawares in a strange locality while passing through the country. John Q. Dyce placed the date of the taking of the last otter on McElhattan Run, as 1885, by a party of Sugar Valley hunters.

Tesla Ricker saw an otter on McElhattan Run, just below the Falls, in 1927. He set a trap for it near its slide, which it got into, but pulled itself free, and made its escape.—E. J. Swinehart.

XXXVII

SOUTHEASTERN SKUNK, "POLE CAT".

Mephitis mephitis putida (G. Cuvier).

The standby, next to the muskrat of the Pennsylvania fur supply. Plentiful and numerous in all of the townships of Clinton County despite inadequate protection afforded to these valuable insect-eating animals. Are very tenacious of life. Roy Womeldorf, a young Clinton County trapper, tells of an amateur trapper in Sugar Valley who chloroformed a skunk before skinning it. The operation was a success but later in the evening the flayed skunk stole into camp, perhaps in search of its hide? Skunks are prolific animals, with 6 to 8 young in a litter, the young being hardy, playful little creatures, more like kittens than wild animals.

XXXVIII

WOLVERENE; "GLUTTON"; "CARCAJOU"; "LITTLE FATHER"; "TAX-GATHERER"; "TOLL-THIEF".

Gulo luscus (Linnæus).

When my father and I maintained a fifty mile trap-line for martens across northern Clinton and Potter Counties, fifty years ago, we were much troubled by gluttons cleaning out our traps, and raiding our camps. In those days the trappers treated gluttons about like modern hunters do the "porkies", killed them and let them lie, not that they killed very many as they were "sly Indians", but they showed them no mercy at any time, blinding and crucifying being the usual punishments inflicted. The glutton was a creature of the dark old forests, and vanished like the wolf, panther, fisher and marten, when the big trees were cut away. I have not heard of a glutton in Clinton County since about 1870, and those killed by my father and Uncle Joe Nelson were several years earlier than that.—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1920.

The Indians had considerable respect for the glutton calling them "little fathers" on account of the dignified manner in which they paraded through the forests, living at the expense of its denizens. The early pioneers in the Coudersport Pike region called them "tax-gatherers" from the way in which they carried away everything of value on

the trap-line. I never heard of a glutton south of the Susquehanna river in Clinton County, or a black cat north of it. They seemed to divide the territory. The last gluttons were in the extreme northern section of the county, and disappeared about 1875.—T. G. Simcox, 1912.

According to Pierre Beyle, an old Frenchman from Paris who "bached" it for many years near the famous Knobs of Clearfield County, a carcajou never forgets an enemy, and will follow its foe to the ends of the earth for the purpose of obtaining revenge. In 1869, when with a party of Frenchville, and French Canadian lumbermen cutting white pine at the head of Montour's Run, the most westerly stream in Clinton County, he met Jules Mouillefarine, a French Canadian, who was badly mauled by a glutton dropping down on him from a tall beech. He was carried into camp on a slab, with every indication of having made a too minute inspection of a concrete mixer; the fierce beast having torn his lower lip down to the throat, lacerated both eyes; chewed off an ear; his handsome black beard was missing, and almost scalped before help arrived, and the wolverine escaped. Mons. Mouillefarine although for several weeks in danger of losing his eyesight took the attack philosophically saying that the winter before 'way up in Penatang he had crucified the five half-grown offspring and mate of this carcajou because they persisted in soiling the butter at the camp where he was Chef. The old "daddy" carcajou cried and moaned about the carcasses for several nights, then disappeared, only to follow him to Pennsylvania, and almost account for his life. The French Canadian's only fear was that he would yet be murdered by the revengeful glutton or "Toll Thief."

XXXIX

SOUTHEASTERN MINK.

Putorius vison Lutreocephalus (Harlan.).

The common mink is gradually growing scarcer all over Clinton County. At first glance a most destructive animal, yet some day its place in Nature's vast economy will be found. Despite the difficulty in destroying the mink, its numbers grow less every year, and its toll of damage materially decreases. I wish I had had the time to study more closely the daily life of this strange creature, of which the two varieties until recently if not now inhabit all of the townships of this county. The northeastern mink (Putorius vison) can be found in the higher mountain regions on the Coudersport Pike, where it is known as the "mountain mink" by old time Clinton County trappers, but I have never compared the two types. Some of our younger trappers have confused the big dark minks with the Pine Marten, but the mink is in reality a much smaller animal. Minks are great breeders, have from 8 to 10 young, and their period of gestation is six weeks.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XL

NEW YORK WEASEL, COMMON WEASEL, LONG-TAILED WEASEL

Putorius noveboracensis (Emmons).

The common weasel, despite incessant warfare waged against it by man, is numerous in all of the townships of Clinton County as the bounty records at Lock Haven will show. How it maintains itself in the face of the thousands slaughtered every year, I am at a loss to understand. I have found the young, but never more than 6 to 8 to a litter, so that it does not increase as fast as some other animals. If the weasel was guilty of all the crimes attributed to it there would not be a bird left in this Commonwealth, but I think on the whole it is a good idea to keep its numbers in check by the bounty law. It is a stupid creature, is easily surrounded, becomes bewildered, and is quickly killed with a club or stone.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XLI

SOUTHEASTERN MARTEN; "AMERICAN SABLE"; "PINE MARTEN"; "MARTEN CAT"

Mustela americana.

The Pine Marten has about vanished from his haunts in the upper parts of Clinton County. My hunter friends bring me reports every year, and of late none have been mentioned. The Marten lived in the tall evergreen timber, and when the forests were cut away, he moved out.—A. K. Pierce, 1920.

Clinton Co.—"Once abundant in the beechwoods of this and adjoining counties; now very rare; saw tracks of two in Clinton Co., winter 1885."—Nelson, 1896.

None reported in the Co. since that date.—Rhoads, 1902.

"Mr. Thomas informs me that he caught 5 or 6 in dead falls on the head waters of Young Woman's Creek (Clinton and Potter Cos.), in 1868."—Cleveland, 1900.

"My father and I for ten years maintained a trap line fifty miles long, in northern Clinton and Potter Counties, and caught hundreds of Pine Martens."—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1920.

"A sable was killed near the Rockey place, at head of Rockey's Run, in fall of 1895."—J. Q. Dyce, 1902.

A few sables were in the giant original white pines on the top of Mount Logan, east of the Little Gap, when I blazed a line around those big trees, so that they would not be cut in the summer of 1870.—T. G. Simcox, 1905.

There were a few Pine Martens in the Baldwin Run Branch of Young Woman's Creek, Clinton County, when the last of the original white hemlocks were cut out there between 1888 and 1892.—J. H. Chatham, 1919.

When I was lumbering on North Mountain, in Columbia County, in 1895, I heard the "squeaking" of the martens in the big timber. Always a trapper, I made sets for them and caught a pair. Old trappers who lived near our camp said that they were getting scarce with the cutting of the timber, despite the fact that they produced 8 to 10 young every year, and were difficult to catch, except by expert trappers.—"Ock" Huff, White Deer Water Dam, Union County, 1917.

Dr. W. T. Hornaday, in his excellent "American Natural History" speaks highly of the Marten, saying that "he lives by honest hunting of wild game." Sometimes he is called on to defend himself. John G. Davis told of a fight between a pair of martens and a black snake among the red pines on the west branch of Hyner Run, lasting several hours in which the martens gradually wore out and killed the wily serpent.

XLII

PENNANT'S MARTEN; "FISHER," "PEKAN," "FISHER FOX," "BLACK CAT."

Mustela pennanti (Erxleben).

"I regret that I do not have a Fisher in my collection of Clinton County mammals. I could have had one easily enough had I begun my systematic collection in time. My collection 'just grew up', and it so happened that no unclaimed fisher was left with me. Hunters who brought reports to me told of the fisher in the Pine Swamp country, south of Renovo, in the late 'seventies, and early eighties, before the prop timber men and the fires went through."—A. K. Pierce, 1920.

Clinton Co.—"A fisher-fox was seen near Mill Hall a year ago."—Pfoutz, 1901.

Dauphin Co.—The living animal from which Audubon made his figure in "Quadrupeds of N. America" was taken by S. F. Baird "in company with an older one in Peter's Mountain, 6 miles above Harrisburg", in early February, 1844.—See p. 312, vol. 1. (Quotations by S. N. Rhoads).

At the present time about the only counties where these animals are to be found are Clearfield, Cameron, Elk and probably Clinton, Potter and Sullivan, and in all of these they are reported to be very rare."—Warren, Poultry book, 1897.

My father, John Davis, made a specialty of trapping "Black Cats" along the Bald Eagle Mountain, in Wayne Township, and caught at least two dozen of these animals during the forties and fifties of the last century."—John G. Davis, 1920.

Central Pennsylvania newspapers reported a black cat being killed in the Seven Mountains, near Milroy, Mifflin County, in fall of 1923, but there have been no recent Clinton County records.

I saw the tracks of a fisher fox on Bald Eagle Mountain south of McElhattan, where Pete Smith was lumbering in winter of 1882. I tried to trap it, but it would not come near my traps.—T. G. Simcox, 1912.

Old Hunters in Clinton County told me that the fisher gave birth to 2 or 3 young. They did not give the fisher any quarter, as it was almost as big a thief on a trap line as a glutton. When in the Adirondacks during the World War, I heard of a few fishers along Spruce Creek on the southern border of the North Woods, and from what an old trapper told me their habits were much the same as those in Pennsylvania.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XLIII

NORTHEASTERN RACCOON; "COON."

Procyon lotor (Linnæus).

Getting scarce all over Clinton County, especially in their old stronghold along McElhattan Run, where I have hunted them for forty years.—John G. Hamersley, 1924.

Only one where there were ten on Chatham's Run twenty years ago.—John F. Brown, 1920.

The 'coons eat the poisoned bait put out for foxes, and will soon be a thing of the past as far as Clinton County is concerned.—J. H. Chatham, 1920.

District Forester R. B. Winter of Bald Eagle Forest tells of 'coons found poisoned along trout streams in Clinton County that had eaten strychnine treated sparrows and "hot dogs". (1920).

One of the "jokers" of fish conservation is the dope handed out about 'coons eating trout. Probably they do get some in low waters when the trout are half dead, and have been doing so for about 'steen million years, and there have always been 'coons and trout. Pollution, illegally dumped into trout streams kills more trout in Clinton County and elsewhere in Pennsylvania in one hour than all the fish destroyed by 'coons since there started to be that animal. Oh, Mr. Big Fish Man at Harrisburg, tell us

something that is easier to believe, and don't always work to alibi the real destroyers of our fish life, the tanneries, paper mills, acid works, dynamite factories, creameries, abbattoirs and the like! Don't destroy a poor little animal that couldn't reduce the number of trout in our streams if he tried.

John H. Chatham loved to tell of a 'coon hunt he took part in with "Tennie" Claflin, later Lady Cook, on Seven Mile Run, Clinton County. He was younger than she, but tall for his age, and she probably rather admired the slim dark youth with the marvelous eyes of the Orient, who later became one of the most observing naturalists in Pennsylvania. There is a "kettle" on the Seven Mile, which to-day is most confusing, but in those days when it was black with gigantic hemlocks even an Indian might get lost in it. They soon lost their way in this wilderness, and though both shouted until hoarse finally sat down on the mossy floor of the forest, and while they awaited the coming of dawn discussed, as Mr. Chatham expressed it, "every topic on the earth, or under and above it." She said that Col. Tom Kane had promised to send her a copy of "The Dialogues of Luisa Sigea" in the Latin. Among other things she prophesied that in fifty years women would be voting in the United States, which seemed a wild statement in those days, when Uncle Sam's boys were at the front trying to free slaves in the Southern States.

AARON EMBIGH, *Bear Hunter* (At Left)

XLIV

EAST AMERICAN BLACK BEAR.

Ursus Americanus (Pallas).

"Don't sell the bearskin until you have killed the bear."—Clinton County proverb.

"The Bear saw his shadow".—Potter County Journal, February 6, 1901. (See Ground Hog.)

Maynard's "History of Clinton County" tells of James McGhee capturing a black bear on Monument Run, Clinton County, in 1875, which, dressed, weighed over four hundred pounds, and was very fat.

In Grugan Township, one fall my father killed fifteen bears with sixteen shots, so plentiful were those animals.—Judge Coleman Grugan, in Maynard's "History of Clinton County", 1874.

Clinton Co.—Seth I. Nelson and his son, with whom I have hunted and trapped bears near Round Island, concur in the belief that they have been more numerous in that region in the past 20 years than before that time. About the year 1883 the junior Nelson killed 7 bears in East Keating township alone. In 1893 he killed 4. In October, 1898, under his directions, I trapped two in one week within a quarter of a mile of each other near my camp on top of the mountain. Their signs in the chestnut woods were so abundant and fresh that a novice might have supposed a score passed along these feeding grounds every night. These conditions prevailed over a stretch of country reaching the borders of Cameron and Potter Counties.

Wherever the mast was abundant the bears had been correspondingly numerous and active.—Rhoads, 1902.

Increasingly common in Clinton Co.—Rothrock, 1900.

More plentiful than 30 years ago.—Hays, 1900 (Rhoads).

Have seen six in Wayne Township in last three years; one an old one with two cubs.—David F. Bixel, Forest Ranger, 1926.

When we lived at Ritchie, below Renovo, about 1901, bears were abundant on the mountains. Several times the hunters trapped bears, and did not visit the traps and the poor beasts starved to death. We could not sleep at night listening to the moans and cries of the dying bears in the traps on the mountain tops across the river from our home. —Mrs. W. T. Wright, McElhattan, 1924.

Bears were plentiful along the Coudersport Pike in Gallaher Township when I first came there from Jefferson County about 1881. The hunters killed them and left them rot in the woods.—George R. Thompson, 1915.

On November 30, 1912, Edgar A. Schwenk, of Sugar Valley, killed a red bear, pronounced by S. N. Rhoads to be a color phase of the black bear, on the Buffalo Path in Clinton County. The hide, admirably mounted by George O'Brien of Lewisburg is in the possession of the compiler of this book.

In 1885, W. J. Emert found a fat cub near mouth of Lucas Run, in McElhattan Gap, and picked it up to carry it home for a roast. Suddenly the mother bear appeared with open jaws and Mr. Emert dropped the cub, but the old bear chased him almost out of the Gap.

George Grassley, of Ritchie, Clinton County, says: "The male black bear was called the 'dog' bear, the female the 'hog' bear. The male was always the sheep and pig killer, being of the same habits as a stray marauding dog."

EDGAR A. SCHWENK, *slayer of red bear*

XLV

SMOKY SHREW.

Sorex fumeus (Miller).

Specimens examined or recorded.—Pa., Clinton Co., near Round Island, 7.

The smoky shrew was prevalent about Keating when I worked on the log drives near there, about 1870.—J. Q. Dyce, 1903.

We still have a few smoky shrews at this end of Clinton County, but not like in the old days.—Seth Nelson, Jr., 1920.

XLVI

NORTHEASTERN MOLE SHREW; LARGE BOB-TAIL SHREW.

Blarina brevicanda (Say).

The large bob-tail shrew is one of the least known of the smaller mammals of Clinton County, yet there is a whole book of facts wrapped up in its hidden, mysterious existence. My observations of this little creature have been well repaid, and I hope that the school children of the County will stop and study similar forms of animal life, for it is both enjoyable and beneficial.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XLVII

BREWER'S MOLE, EASTERN HAIRY-TAIL MOLE.

Parascalops breweri (Bachman)

The Eastern hairy-tail mole is familiar to most dwellers of Clinton County, where it is found in almost every section. It is held to be destructive, but the value of its hide will cause its protection or propagation under certain restrictions in the future. I am hoping that our interesting and useful animals will survive to the day when a more intelligent generation will seek to utilize and not stupidly destroy them. I am convinced that every living thing has a wise and beneficent purpose "here below".—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XLVIII

STAR-NOSE MOLE; LONG-TAILED OP SWAMP MOLE; "SWIMMING MOLE".

Condylura cristata (Linnaeus).

I agree with Brother Rhoads that the swimming mole is the most useful member of this family. He keeps the water moving, by his burrowing along dams and dykes, destroys noxious insects, and is working on the side of mankind and the farmer from dawn to dark. Seldom seen, he is not so extensively persecuted as the meadow mole, and I believe his numbers are not decreasing in Clinton County. They are particularly numerous in Nittany Valley, where there are so many mill dams, sluiceways and dykes. In color this mole is a slatish black color; has no gloss like the common mole, and seems to me to be a more intelligent animal.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

XLIX

LECONTES' LITTLE BROWN BAT.

Myotis lucifugus (Leconte).

Specimens examined or recorded.—Pa., from Beaver; Butler; Cambria; Clarion; Clinton; Elk; Erie; McKean and Westmoreland counties.—Rhoads.

The little brown bat has been frequently noted throughout Clinton County. We have them here in Wayne Township, but they are more plentiful, I think, in the higher altitudes, in Gallaher Township on the Coudersport Pike.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

L

SAY'S LITTLE BROWN BAT.

Myotis subulatus (Say).

I think that Say's Little Brown Bat is more plentiful in all parts of Clinton County than Leconte's Bat, which is very similar. It is the common bat of the countryside, and probably resorts to hollow trees and holes in the rocks in this county and to the larger caves of Centre County to hibernate. When I taught school in the limestone valleys I explored every cave I heard of for miles around, Penn's, Veiled Lady's, Mallory's, Bower's, Stover's, Naginey, Red Panther's, Ice, Alexander's, Great Valley, Big Crystal, Little Crystal, Lewis' Crawl, Logan's, Diamond, Black, Blue Water, Stoney, Chalybeate, Bear, Ringing Stone, and Fat Man's Misery, as they were called, mostly in Centre and Mifflin Counties, and in the greater number of these, when I visited them in wintertime I found Say's Bat roosting in clusters containing hundreds of individuals. This bat, I should say is our greatest insect devouring bat and should be protected.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

LI

SILVERY BLACK BAT.

Lasionycteris noctivagans (Leconte).

When I was in the Black Forest bee hunting Centennial Year (1876) I found the silvery black bat in the same territory as the native black bees. I made a particularly close study of these interesting creatures at that time, and am grateful to them for keeping the forests comparatively free of insects, else camping out would have been intolerable.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

LII

NEW YORK PIGMY BAT, "NIGHT WREN."

Pipistrellus subflavus obscurus (Miller.)

(Apparently classed as a doubtful species in Clinton County, but included here on strength of identifications of Messrs. Chatham and Dyce.—H. W. S.)

I have occasionally noted the Pigmy Bat in Wayne township, as well as in other parts of Clinton County, along the river, and it was called by the early Scotch-Irish settlers the Night Wren. That was a term of approbrium, as in the North of Ireland the wren was known as the Devil Bird.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

Of all the bats in Clinton County the old-timers liked least of all the rare Pigmy Bat, or Night Wren. Probably that was because so many of the early settlers were of Scotch-Irish origin, or at least had Scotch blood in their veins. Though classed by hasty genealogists as a P. D., I am a Scot by blood. During the Seventeenth Century my ancestor Alexander Dyce, a schoolmaster, migrated to Germany to teach conic sections to a Prince of the Blood, who eventually gave him a monopoly and he became a successful merchant of Hungarian wines. The name became Germanized into Deyse, and when they landed in Pennsylvania English scribes altered it to Deise, but we

have now gone back to the original Scottish spelling "Dyce." Throughout our wanderings we never lost our Caledonian traditions, and Christian names, together with the superstitions of the Highlands. One of them was a dread of the appearance at certain times of small bats or wrens. A Pigmy Bat in the house meant a disaster of some kind, it never failed in ten generations of Dyces. The old families of Clinton County, no matter what their origin, Greek, Scotch-Irish, Huguenot, Waldensian, Spanish, German, or Dutch, each had its familiar animal spirit or token; I know them all, and could tell them to you if you cared to hear them. And though we knew that trouble followed these visitors from another world, we were in a sense proud of them, as the families of newer origins did not have them—all of the Scotch-German families had them, the Campbells, Camerons, Buchanans, Nelsons, Hays, Youngs, Jacks, Barclays, Peppers, Kerrs, Reids, Silvius, and others. Their names had all been slightly altered to German pronunciation after they had gone to Germany for business advancement and then come to Pennsylvania, but they were a wheel within a wheel, a clannish group, who considered themselves above the rank and file of Pennsylvania Germans, married only among themselves, cherished their armorial bearings, traditions and ghosts, and many have been the great men in Pennsylvania and elseswhere, including Major William McKinley, who have this blood in their veins.—J. Q. Dyce, 1902.

LIII

NORTHEASTERN LARGE BROWN BAT; "HOUSE BAT"; "BED BUG BAT"; "MAIDEN HAIR BAT"; "BIG BROWN BAT"; "HOUSE-FLYER."

Eptesicus fuscus (Beauvois).

When one of these House Bats got in a room it always made for the hair of unmarried girls or maidens. Hence we always called it a Maiden Hair bat. It was always a proof of the girl's virginity if a bat entangled itself in her hair. Girls so visited were always treated with unusual respect at all Church gatherings, and were the vestals of our pioneer mountain meeting-houses.—J. Q. Dyce, 1903.

House bats were supposed to attract bed bugs which bred in the big hemlocks, and if a bat of this kind entered a house next day there was a lively search to see if it had left any of the little bed pests behind.—T. G. Simcox, 1909.

The large brown bat or house bat is still quite numerous in Clinton County, and they are met with from time to time in Wayne Township.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

At a festival held in 1864 in Montgomery's woods, a grove of giant original growth pines, maples, and oaks that were cut down in 1894, near the present site of McElhattan Station, for the benefit of the Sanitary Fund, one

particularly beautiful young girl was given the "cold shoulder" by most of those present, it was a very prim narrow day, for a supposed indiscretion of character. Soon after the torchlight was lit, Maiden Hair bats began to appear in considerable numbers, to the consternation of the pleasure-seekers Some of them swooped low, and the girls would cry "bloody-murder," but they seemed to show no desire to nest in their raven tresses. All at once a monster bat swept down from the biggest white oak, and made a "bee line" for the young girl under suspicion, who was seated on a bench somewhat apart from the others. With a squeak it buried itself in her profuse dark hair, and she ran screaming from the grove. Her character vindicated, every one evinced interest in her, and ran after her, catching up to her when she was almost at the river bank. It was found that the bat was so tightly enmeshed in her hair, that she had to have her hair bobbed, which gave her the appearance of an Indian maid. Soon after she married a wealthy farmer's son from over the river and moved west, her innocence vindicated by a bat.—(Mrs. F———— 1908.)

LIV

NORTHERN RED BAT; "TREE BAT"; "COW BAT".

Lasiurus borealis (Muller).

The early settlers dubbed the night hawk the "Bull Bat" because of his generally masculine and bull-headed appearance, but when in the depths of the Black Forest, on their nocturnal treks along the Jersey Shore-Coudersport Turnpike and they saw the more graceful flitting of something like the Bull Bat, yet not a bird, they instantly called it the Cow Bat, or the red fox-like color may have suggested a cow. This was the Northern Red Bat, or Tree Bat, one of our most handsome and useful night-flyers. I have watched the almost poetical flight of the Tree Bats until darkness shut them from view, and feel that they add a cerain eerie charm to the night side of nature that would be hard to replace. Bats are good mothers, being very fond of their young, though they seem to propagate very slowly, usually having but one or two little ones at a birth.—J. H. Chatham, 1921.

LV

HOARY BAT; "VAMPIRE"; "HAIRY BAT."

Lasiurus cinereus (Beauvois).

Records in Pa.—Clinton Co.—I examined a mounted specimen in 1896, taken near Renovo, in the collection of A. K. Pierce, shot in spring of 1891.—Rhoads.

Those of us who liked to play jokes always called the Hairy Bat the "Vampire", and ascribed to it all kinds of evil doings. They have been occasionally met with in Clinton County, especially near the river banks.—J. Q. Dyce, 1902.

I met with this bat among the big pines on the summit of Mount Logan, of the Bald Eagle range (altitude about 2200 feet). It may breed there.—T. G. Simcox, 1912.

Old settlers used to claim that the Vampire Bat would milk cows, goats, and sheep, and some times puncture their backs and drain them of blood. I have found dead lambs in a pasture so emaciated that they really looked as if they had been sucked dry of all their blood.—J. Q. Dyce, 1901.

Finis